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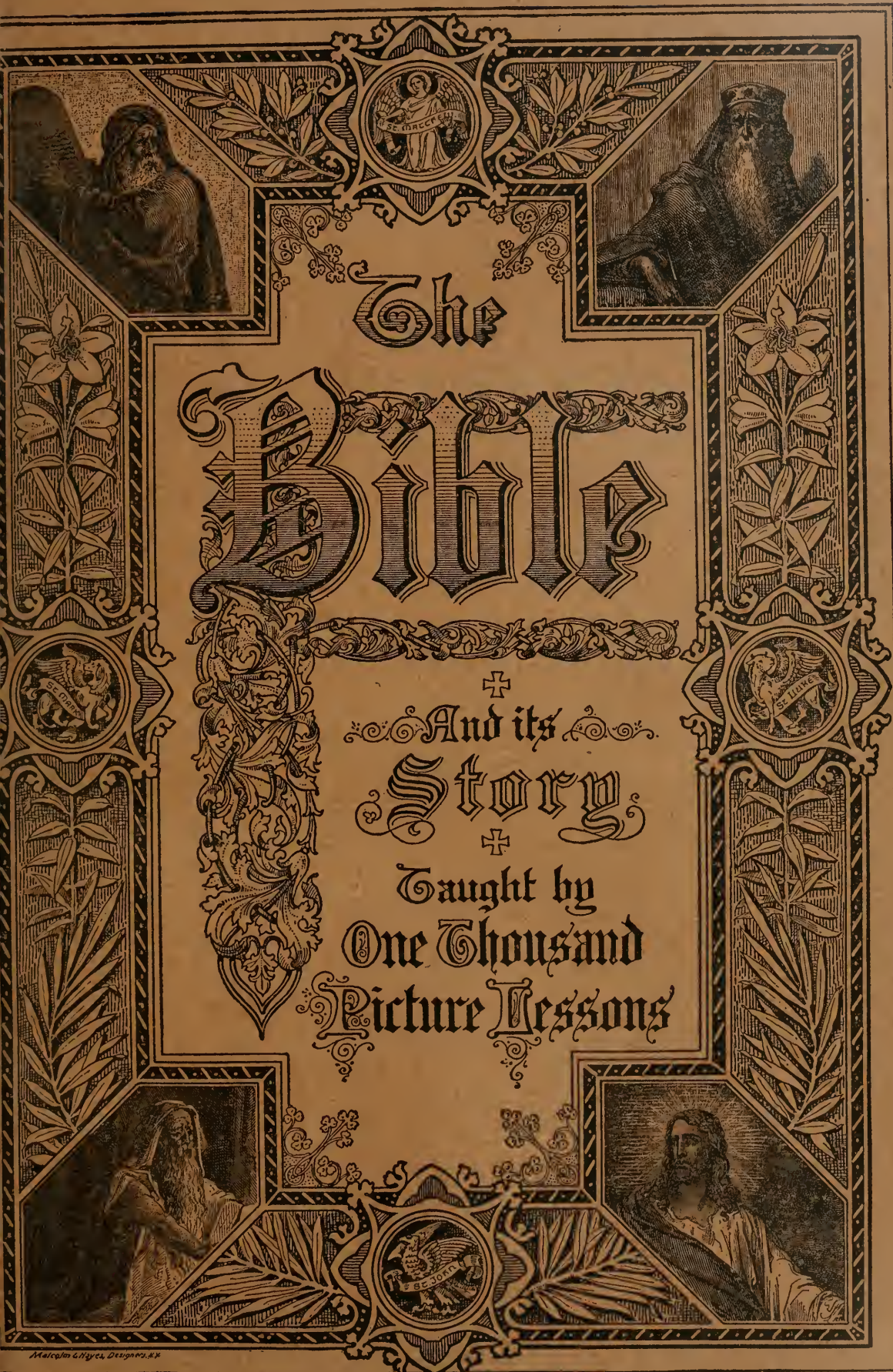
GEORGE T. REYNOLDS

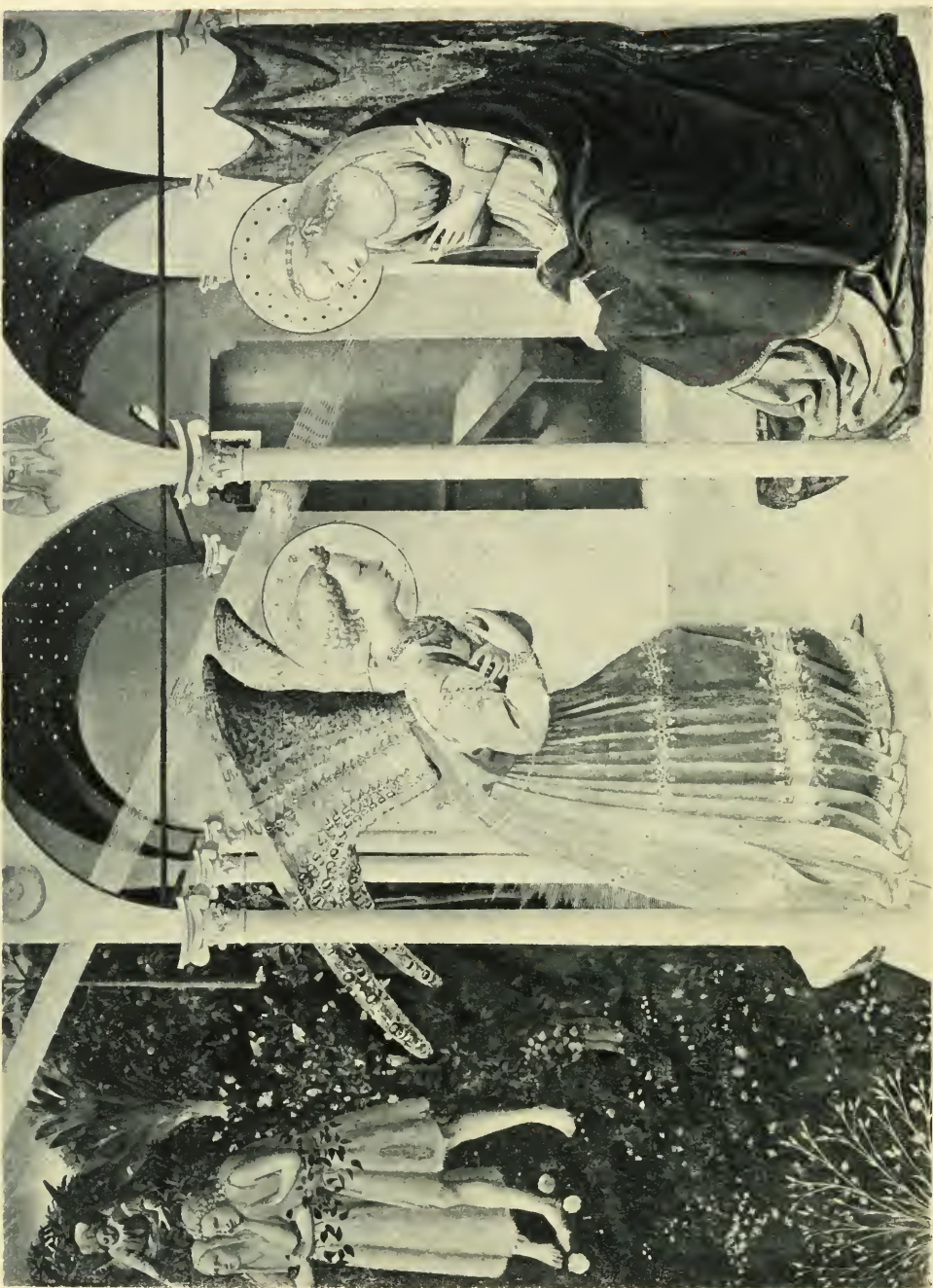
in memory of his mother

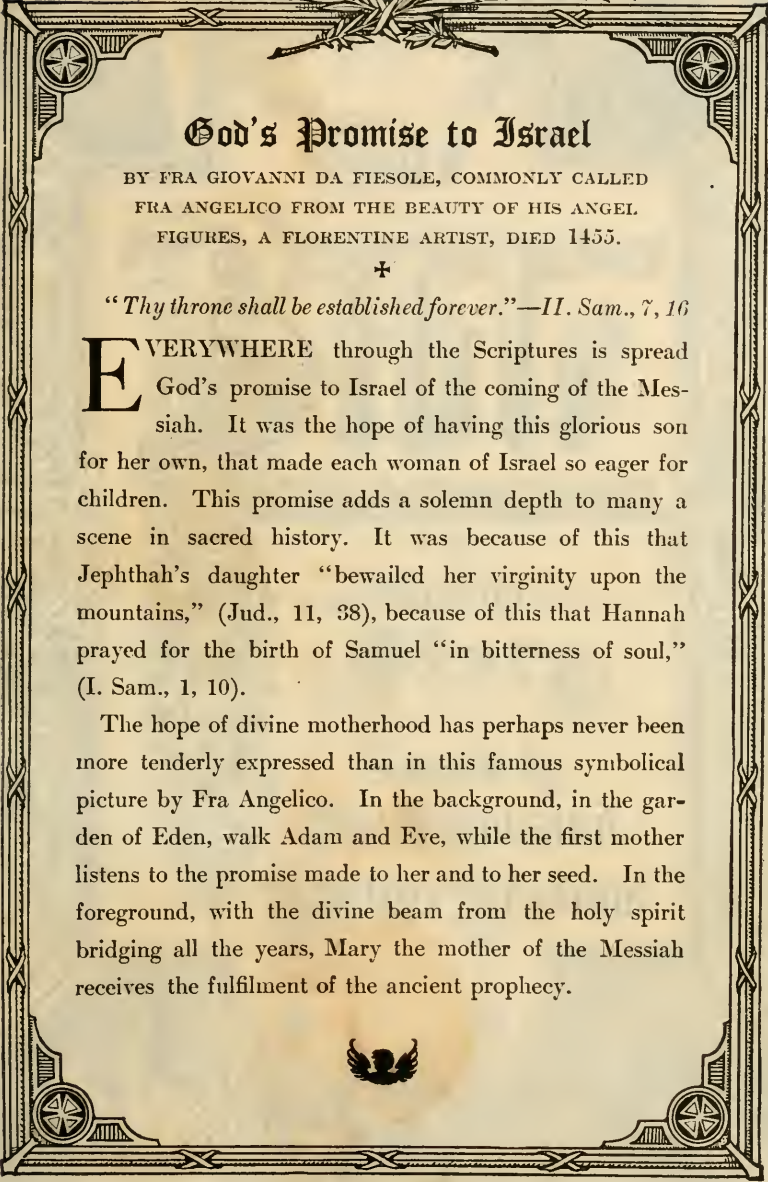
LAURA LEE REYNOLDS

1884-1967

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Bible.
The Bible and its story..







God's Promise to Israel

BY FRA GIOVANNI DA FIESOLE, COMMONLY CALLED
FRA ANGELICO FROM THE BEAUTY OF HIS ANGEL
FIGURES, A FLORENTINE ARTIST, DIED 1455.

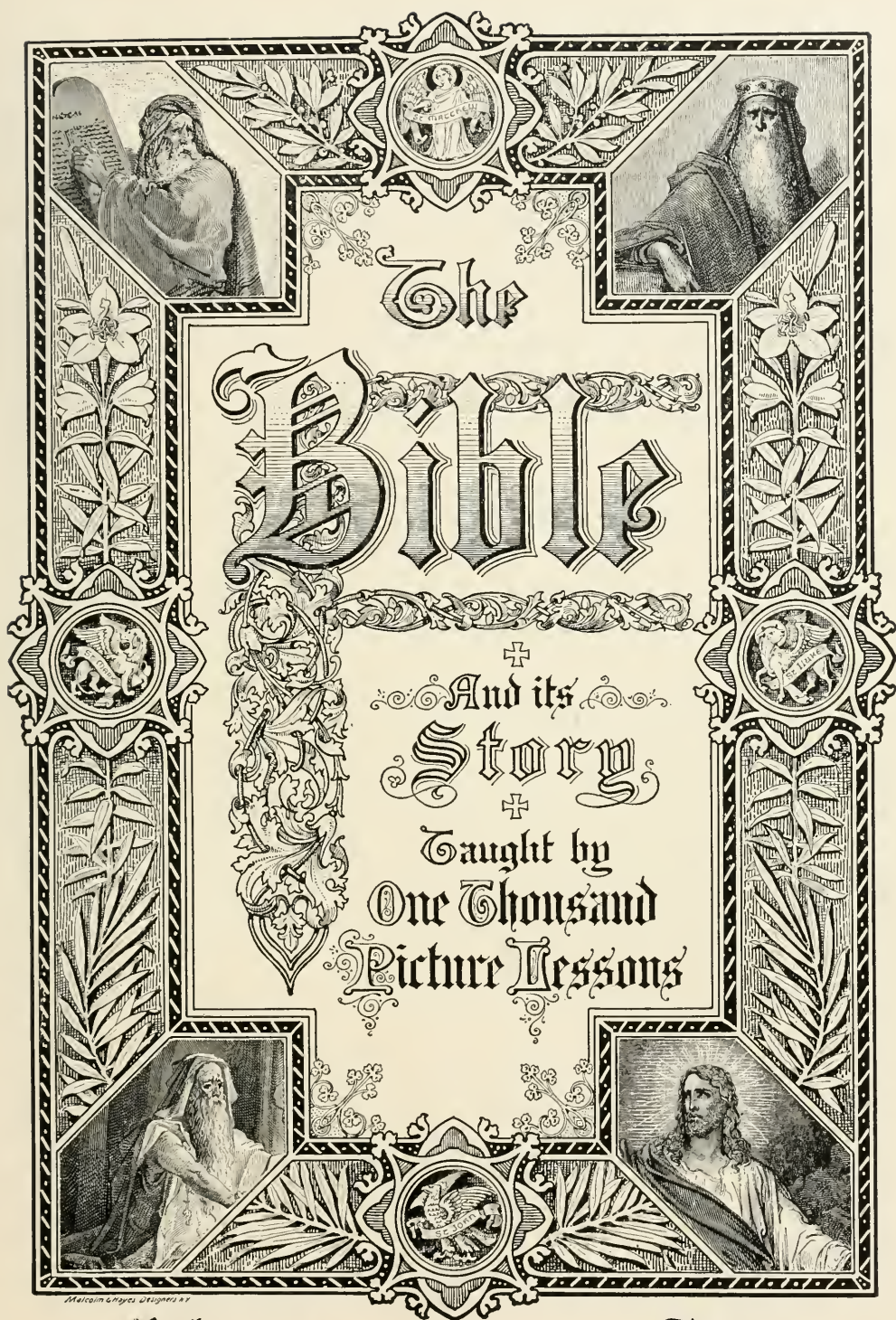


"Thy throne shall be established forever."—II. Sam., 7, 16

EVERYWHERE through the Scriptures is spread God's promise to Israel of the coming of the Messiah. It was the hope of having this glorious son for her own, that made each woman of Israel so eager for children. This promise adds a solemn depth to many a scene in sacred history. It was because of this that Jephthah's daughter "bewailed her virginity upon the mountains," (Jud., 11, 38), because of this that Hannah prayed for the birth of Samuel "in bitterness of soul," (I. Sam., 1, 10).

The hope of divine motherhood has perhaps never been more tenderly expressed than in this famous symbolical picture by Fra Angelico. In the background, in the garden of Eden, walk Adam and Eve, while the first mother listens to the promise made to her and to her seed. In the foreground, with the divine beam from the holy spirit bridging all the years, Mary the mother of the Messiah receives the fulfilment of the ancient prophecy.





Volume

Third

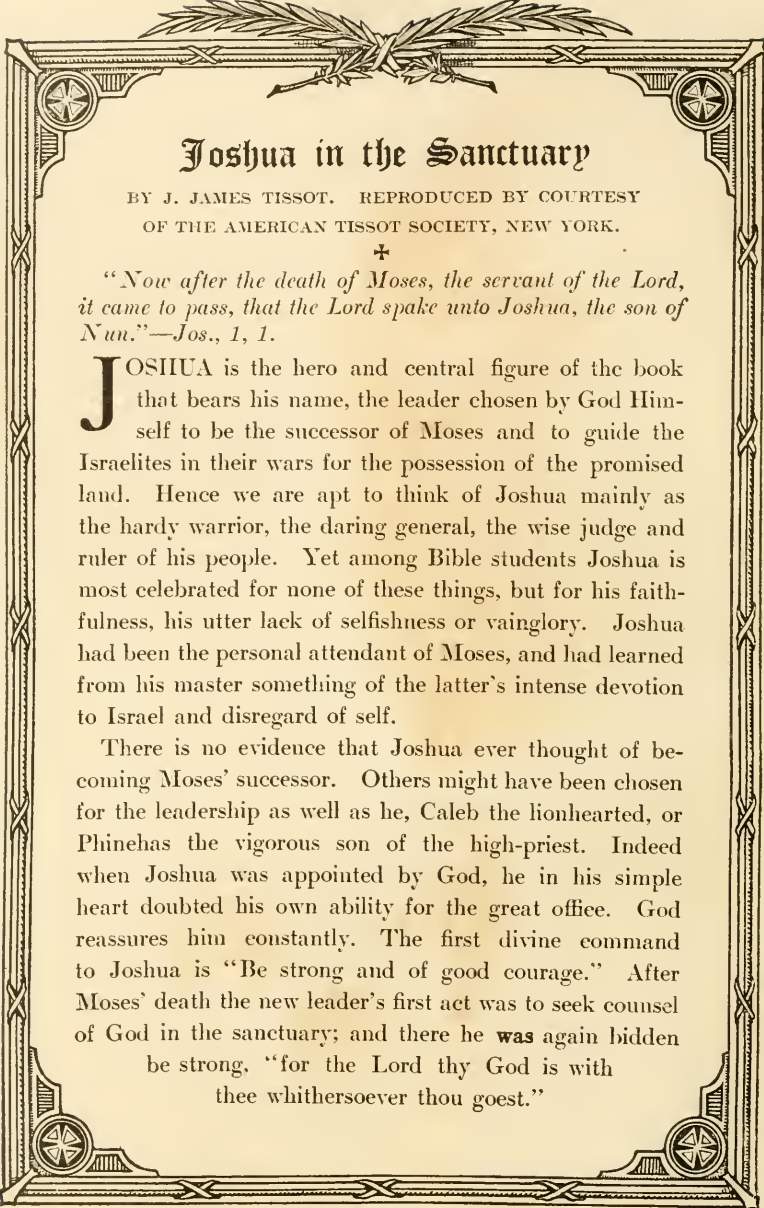
CHAPTER II. THE SUNDAY

THE SUNDAY is the day of rest, and is the day of the week which is set apart for the worship of God, and the observance of His commandments. It is the day which is the foundation of the Christian religion, and is the day which is the basis of the Christian life.

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Joshua in the Sanctuary

BY J. JAMES TISSOT. REPRODUCED BY COURTESY
OF THE AMERICAN TISSOT SOCIETY, NEW YORK.



"Now after the death of Moses, the servant of the Lord, it came to pass, that the Lord spake unto Joshua, the son of Nun."—Jos., 1, 1.

JOSHUA is the hero and central figure of the book that bears his name, the leader chosen by God Himself to be the successor of Moses and to guide the Israelites in their wars for the possession of the promised land. Hence we are apt to think of Joshua mainly as the hardy warrior, the daring general, the wise judge and ruler of his people. Yet among Bible students Joshua is most celebrated for none of these things, but for his faithfulness, his utter lack of selfishness or vainglory. Joshua had been the personal attendant of Moses, and had learned from his master something of the latter's intense devotion to Israel and disregard of self.

There is no evidence that Joshua ever thought of becoming Moses' successor. Others might have been chosen for the leadership as well as he, Caleb the lionhearted, or Phinehas the vigorous son of the high-priest. Indeed when Joshua was appointed by God, he in his simple heart doubted his own ability for the great office. God reassures him constantly. The first divine command to Joshua is "Be strong and of good courage." After Moses' death the new leader's first act was to seek counsel of God in the sanctuary; and there he **was** again bidden be strong, "for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."



111-4—Copyright, 1904, by M. de Brunoff.



Rahab Hides the Spies

BY FREDERICK R. PICKERSGILL, R. A., AN ENGLISH
HISTORICAL PAINTER, DIED 1900.



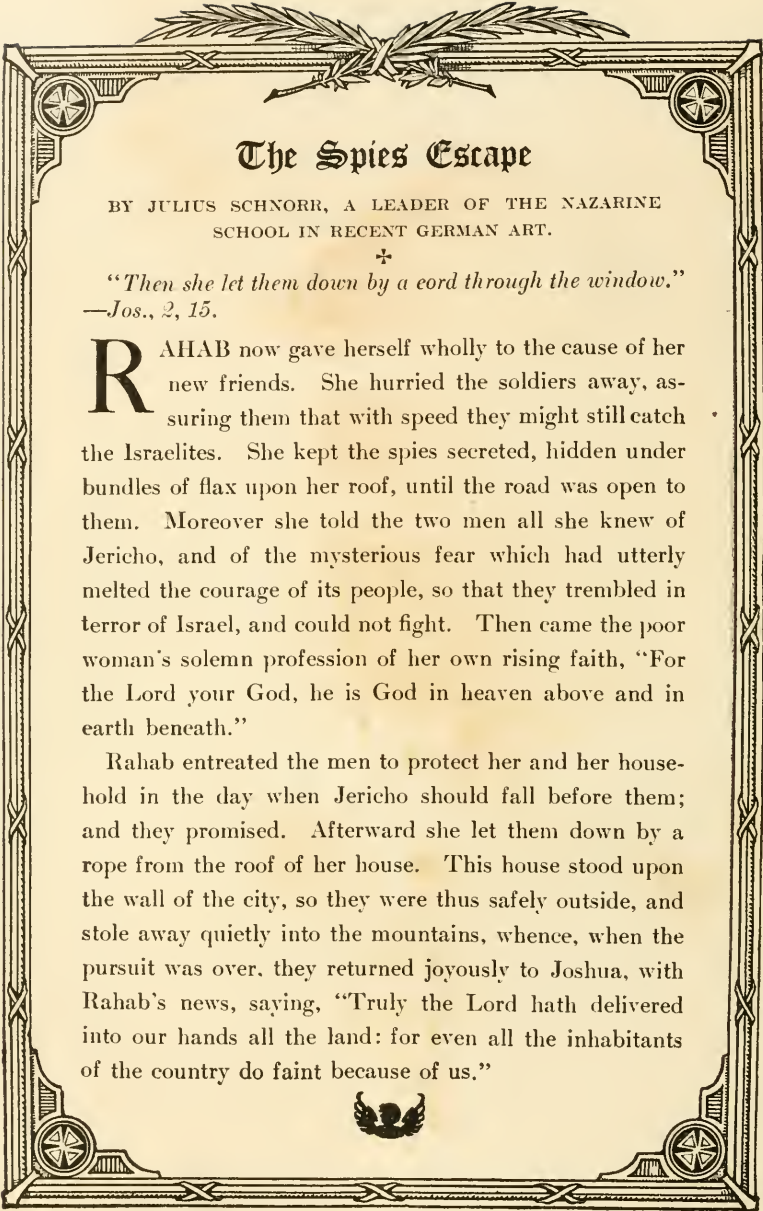
*"And the woman took the two men and hid them."—
Jos., 2, 4.*

JOSHUA began his great work warily. His people were encamped on the east bank of the Jordan. Across the river lay the huge high-walled city of Jericho, a mighty fortress standing as the south-east gateway of Canaan, and supposed to protect it securely from all such desert wanderers as the tribes of Israel. Joshua, gazing across the river at those tremendous walls, wondered how his people should surmount them, and sent two spies to report upon the land, even as Moses had sent him and his companions forty years before.

The two spies entered the city boldly and went for the night to a public house, perhaps a sort of inn, kept by a woman named Rahab. But they had been seen, and recognized, and followed. Soldiers, sent by the king of the city, came in the gathering twilight, knocking at Rahab's door, telling her these men were spies. In a single instant, the woman had to make her everlasting choice between Jericho and Israel, between the old life and the new. Perchance she hesitated: but her woman-heart would not permit her to surrender her guests to destruction. She told the soldiers that the Israelites had stolen away into the night.







The Spies Escape

BY JULIUS SCHNORR, A LEADER OF THE NAZARINE
SCHOOL IN RECENT GERMAN ART.



"Then she let them down by a cord through the window."
—Jos., 2, 15.

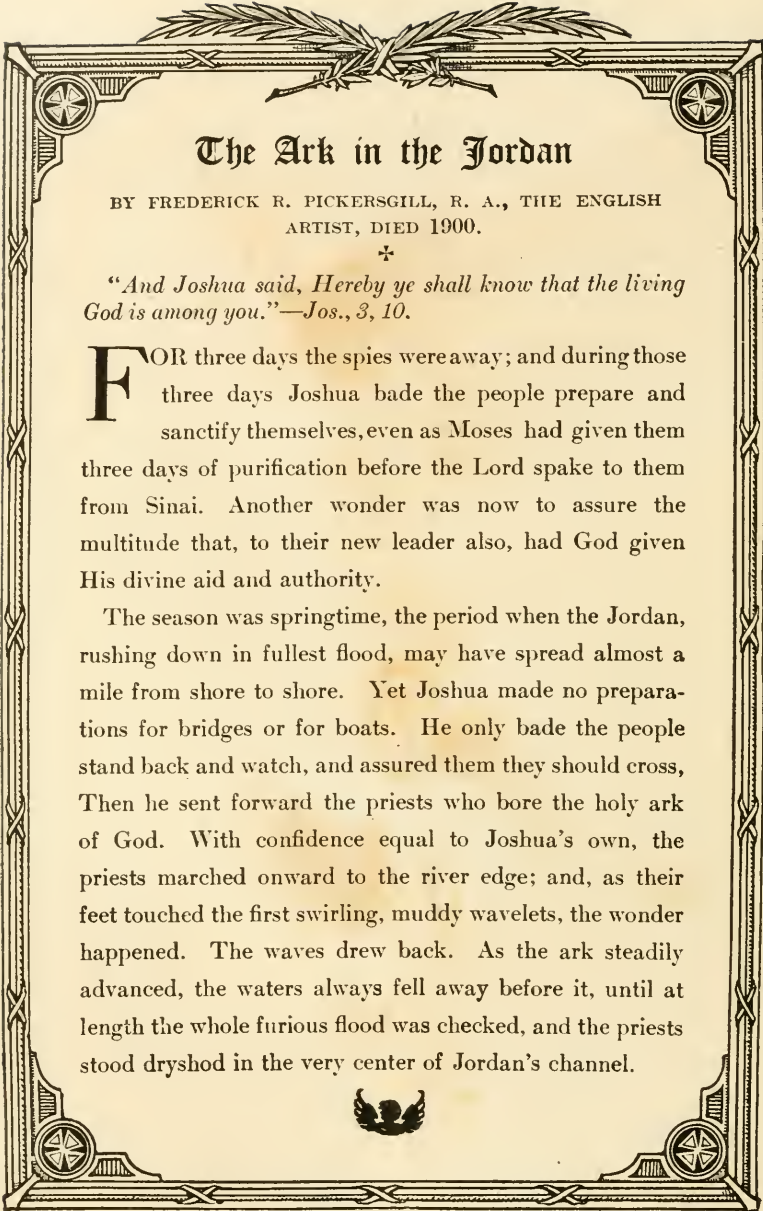
RAHAB now gave herself wholly to the cause of her new friends. She hurried the soldiers away, assuring them that with speed they might still catch the Israelites. She kept the spies secreted, hidden under bundles of flax upon her roof, until the road was open to them. Moreover she told the two men all she knew of Jericho, and of the mysterious fear which had utterly melted the courage of its people, so that they trembled in terror of Israel, and could not fight. Then came the poor woman's solemn profession of her own rising faith, "For the Lord your God, he is God in heaven above and in earth beneath."

Rahab entreated the men to protect her and her household in the day when Jericho should fall before them; and they promised. Afterward she let them down by a rope from the roof of her house. This house stood upon the wall of the city, so they were thus safely outside, and stole away quietly into the mountains, whence, when the pursuit was over, they returned joyously to Joshua, with Rahab's news, saying, "Truly the Lord hath delivered into our hands all the land: for even all the inhabitants of the country do faint because of us."





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The Ark in the Jordan

BY FREDERICK R. PICKERSGILL, R. A., THE ENGLISH
ARTIST, DIED 1900.



"And Joshua said, Hereby ye shall know that the living God is among you."—Jos., 3, 10.

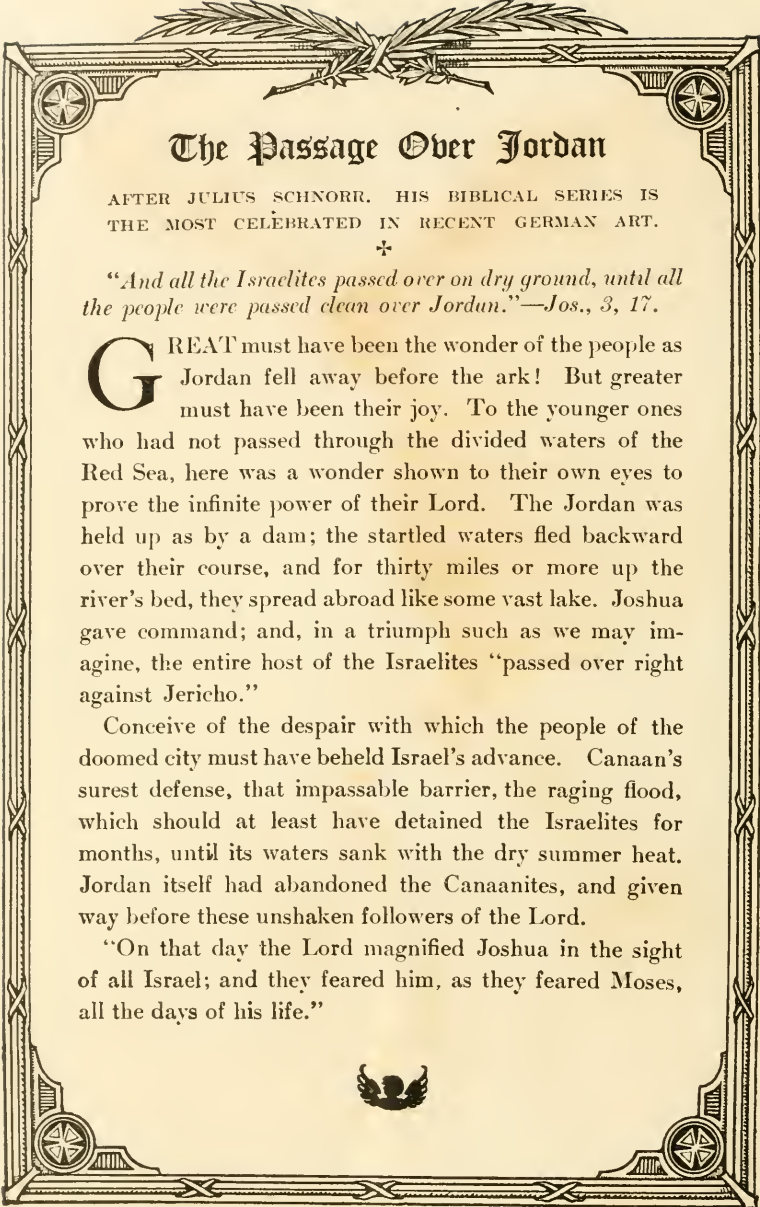
FOR three days the spies were away; and during those three days Joshua bade the people prepare and sanctify themselves, even as Moses had given them three days of purification before the Lord spake to them from Sinai. Another wonder was now to assure the multitude that, to their new leader also, had God given His divine aid and authority.

The season was springtime, the period when the Jordan, rushing down in fullest flood, may have spread almost a mile from shore to shore. Yet Joshua made no preparations for bridges or for boats. He only bade the people stand back and watch, and assured them they should cross, Then he sent forward the priests who bore the holy ark of God. With confidence equal to Joshua's own, the priests marched onward to the river edge; and, as their feet touched the first swirling, muddy wavelets, the wonder happened. The waves drew back. As the ark steadily advanced, the waters always fell away before it, until at length the whole furious flood was checked, and the priests stood dryshod in the very center of Jordan's channel.





THE HISTORY OF THE



The Passage Over Jordan

AFTER JULIUS SCHNORR. HIS BIBLICAL SERIES IS
THE MOST CELEBRATED IN RECENT GERMAN ART.



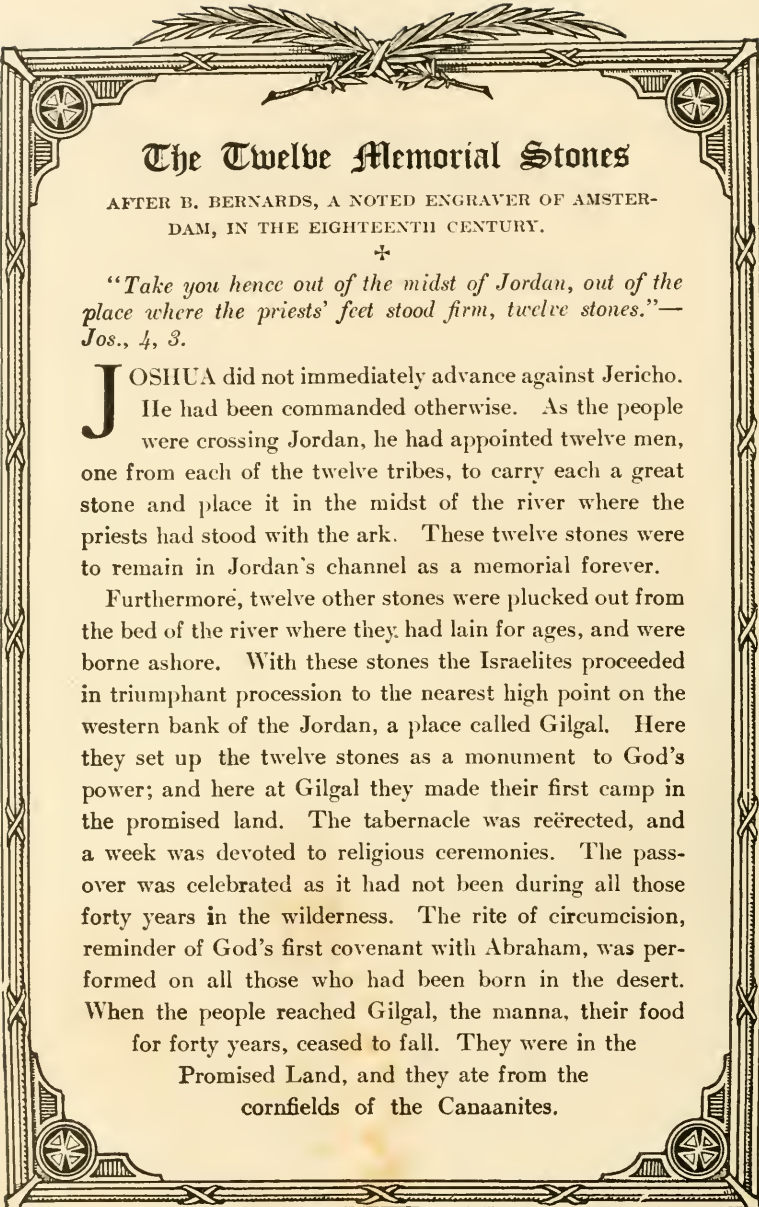
"And all the Israelites passed over on dry ground, until all the people were passed clean over Jordan."—Jos., 3, 17.

GR^{EAT} must have been the wonder of the people as Jordan fell away before the ark! But greater must have been their joy. To the younger ones who had not passed through the divided waters of the Red Sea, here was a wonder shown to their own eyes to prove the infinite power of their Lord. The Jordan was held up as by a dam; the startled waters fled backward over their course, and for thirty miles or more up the river's bed, they spread abroad like some vast lake. Joshua gave command; and, in a triumph such as we may imagine, the entire host of the Israelites "passed over right against Jericho."

Conceive of the despair with which the people of the doomed city must have beheld Israel's advance. Canaan's surest defense, that impassable barrier, the raging flood, which should at least have detained the Israelites for months, until its waters sank with the dry summer heat. Jordan itself had abandoned the Canaanites, and given way before these unshaken followers of the Lord.

"On that day the Lord magnified Joshua in the sight of all Israel; and they feared him, as they feared Moses, all the days of his life."





The Twelve Memorial Stones

AFTER B. BERNARDS, A NOTED ENGRAVER OF AMSTERDAM, IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.



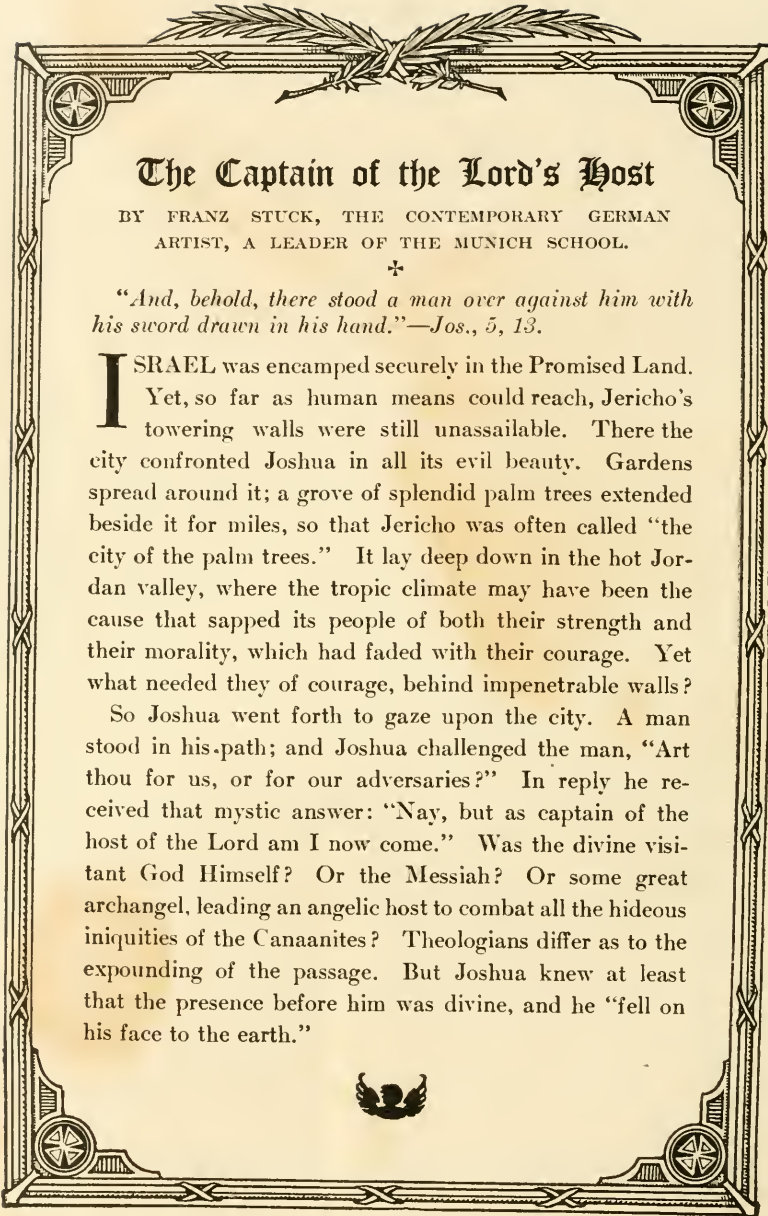
*"Take you hence out of the midst of Jordan, out of the place where the priests' feet stood firm, twelve stones."—
Jos., 4, 3.*

JOSHUA did not immediately advance against Jericho. He had been commanded otherwise. As the people were crossing Jordan, he had appointed twelve men, one from each of the twelve tribes, to carry each a great stone and place it in the midst of the river where the priests had stood with the ark. These twelve stones were to remain in Jordan's channel as a memorial forever.

Furthermore, twelve other stones were plucked out from the bed of the river where they had lain for ages, and were borne ashore. With these stones the Israelites proceeded in triumphant procession to the nearest high point on the western bank of the Jordan, a place called Gilgal. Here they set up the twelve stones as a monument to God's power; and here at Gilgal they made their first camp in the promised land. The tabernacle was reërected, and a week was devoted to religious ceremonies. The pass-over was celebrated as it had not been during all those forty years in the wilderness. The rite of circumcision, reminder of God's first covenant with Abraham, was performed on all those who had been born in the desert. When the people reached Gilgal, the manna, their food for forty years, ceased to fall. They were in the

Promised Land, and they ate from the
cornfields of the Canaanites.





The Captain of the Lord's Host

BY FRANZ STUCK, THE CONTEMPORARY GERMAN
ARTIST, A LEADER OF THE MUNICH SCHOOL.



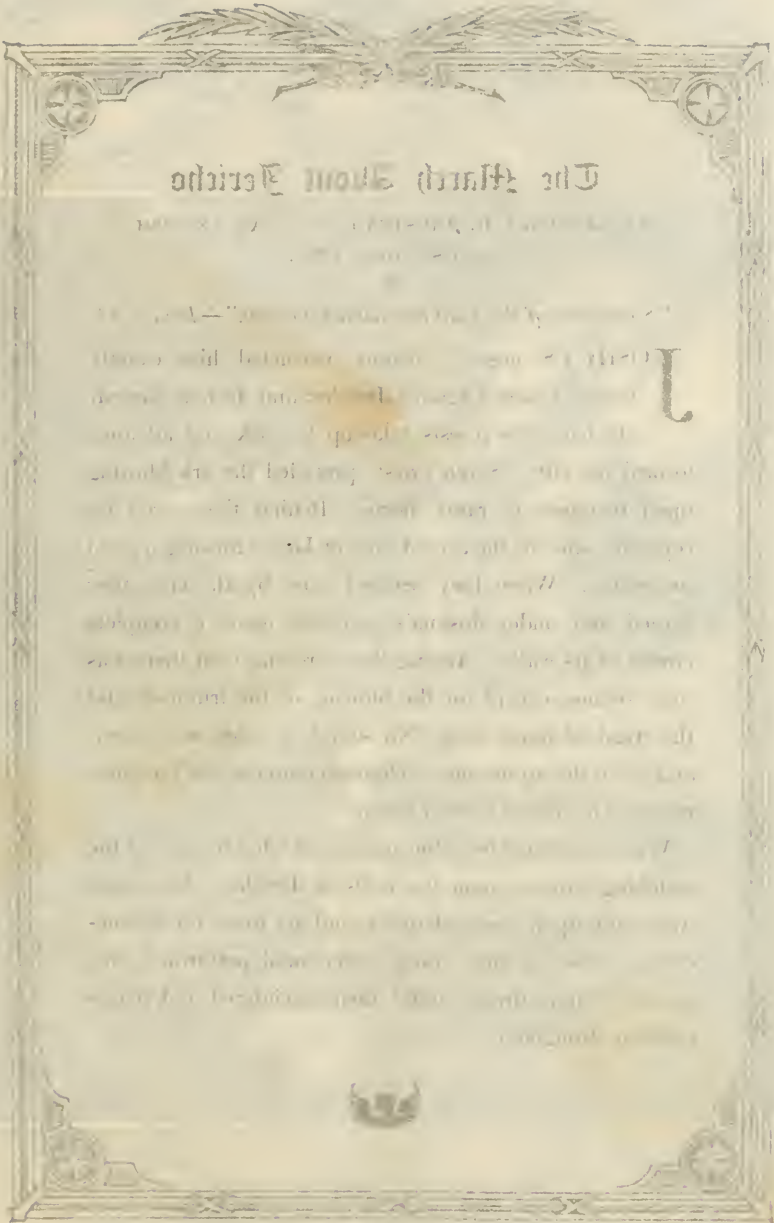
"And, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand."—Jos., 5, 13.

ISRAEL was encamped securely in the Promised Land. Yet, so far as human means could reach, Jericho's towering walls were still unassailable. There the city confronted Joshua in all its evil beauty. Gardens spread around it; a grove of splendid palm trees extended beside it for miles, so that Jericho was often called "the city of the palm trees." It lay deep down in the hot Jordan valley, where the tropic climate may have been the cause that sapped its people of both their strength and their morality, which had faded with their courage. Yet what needed they of courage, behind impenetrable walls?

So Joshua went forth to gaze upon the city. A man stood in his path; and Joshua challenged the man, "Art thou for us, or for our adversaries?" In reply he received that mystic answer: "Nay, but as captain of the host of the Lord am I now come." Was the divine visitant God Himself? Or the Messiah? Or some great archangel, leading an angelic host to combat all the hideous iniquities of the Canaanites? Theologians differ as to the expounding of the passage. But Joshua knew at least that the presence before him was divine, and he "fell on his face to the earth."







The Atlantic Journal

Published by the Atlantic Journal Company, New York.

Vol. 1, No. 1, January, 1877.

Published by the Atlantic Journal Company, New York.

Last night I was awakened by a loud knock at my door. I opened the door and found a man standing there. He was a stranger to me, and I did not know his name. He said that he had just come from the city and that he had some news to tell me.

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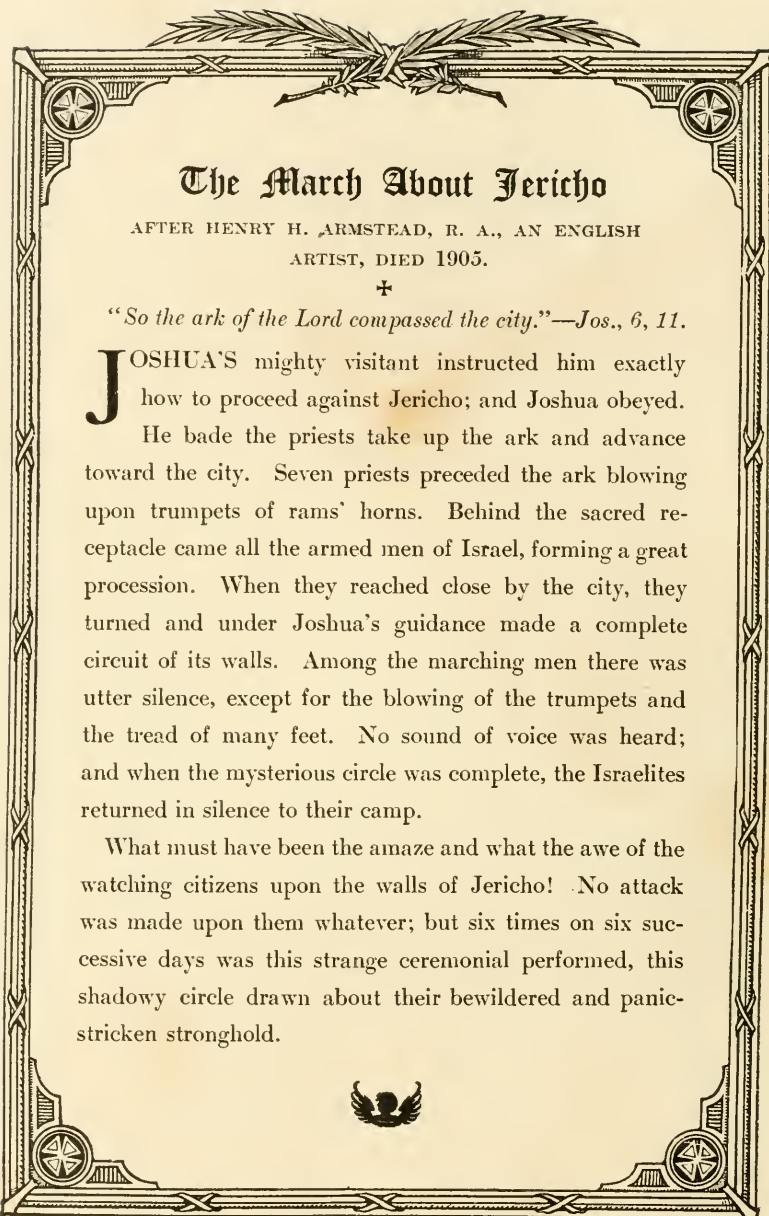
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The March About Jericho

AFTER HENRY H. ARMSTEAD, R. A., AN ENGLISH
ARTIST, DIED 1905.



"So the ark of the Lord compassed the city."—Jos., 6, 11.

JOSHUA'S mighty visitant instructed him exactly how to proceed against Jericho; and Joshua obeyed.

He bade the priests take up the ark and advance toward the city. Seven priests preceded the ark blowing upon trumpets of rams' horns. Behind the sacred receptacle came all the armed men of Israel, forming a great procession. When they reached close by the city, they turned and under Joshua's guidance made a complete circuit of its walls. Among the marching men there was utter silence, except for the blowing of the trumpets and the tread of many feet. No sound of voice was heard; and when the mysterious circle was complete, the Israelites returned in silence to their camp.

What must have been the amaze and what the awe of the watching citizens upon the walls of Jericho! No attack was made upon them whatever; but six times on six successive days was this strange ceremonial performed, this shadowy circle drawn about their bewildered and panic-stricken stronghold.





THE BIBLE

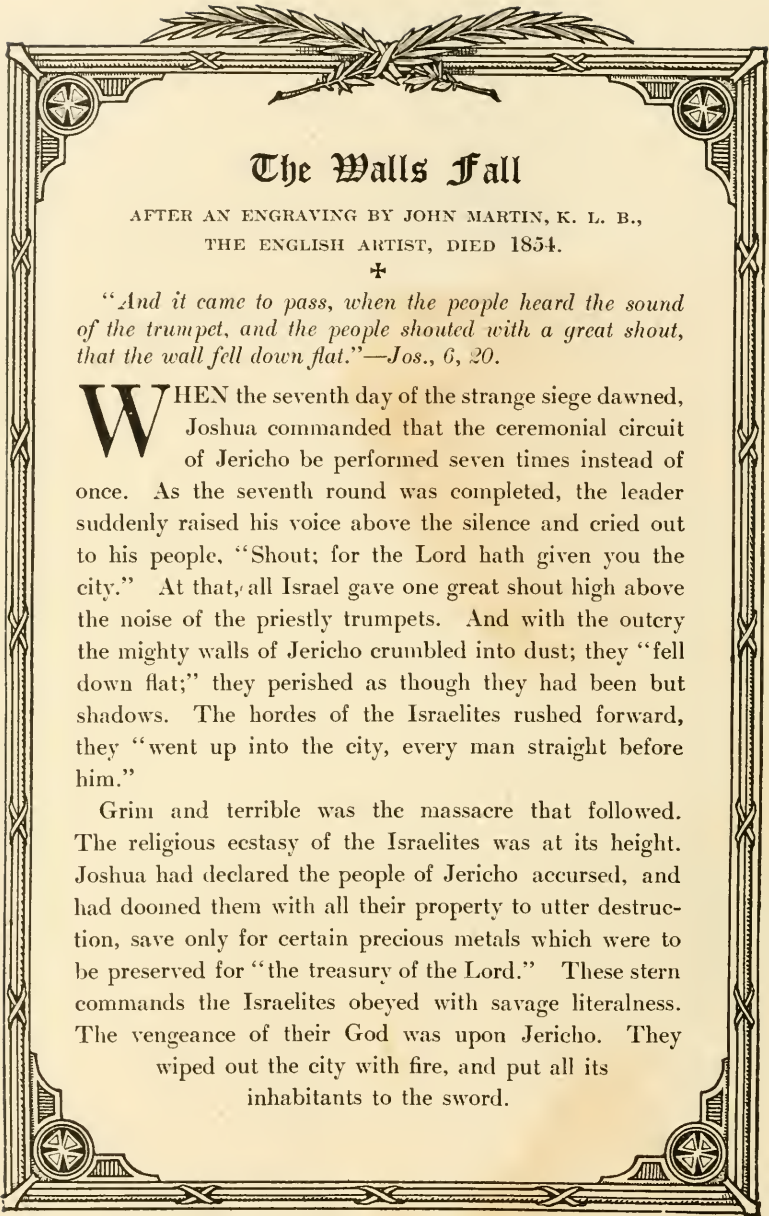
THE BIBLE IS THE FOUNDATION OF OUR FAITH AND THE SOURCE OF OUR KNOWLEDGE OF GOD AND OURSELVES.

THE BIBLE IS THE WORD OF GOD, AND IT IS THE ONLY BOOK THAT CAN GIVE US A TRUE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD AND OURSELVES.

THE BIBLE IS THE WORD OF GOD, AND IT IS THE ONLY BOOK THAT CAN GIVE US A TRUE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD AND OURSELVES. **W**HAT IS THE BIBLE? IT IS THE WORD OF GOD, AND IT IS THE ONLY BOOK THAT CAN GIVE US A TRUE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD AND OURSELVES. THE BIBLE IS THE WORD OF GOD, AND IT IS THE ONLY BOOK THAT CAN GIVE US A TRUE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD AND OURSELVES. THE BIBLE IS THE WORD OF GOD, AND IT IS THE ONLY BOOK THAT CAN GIVE US A TRUE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD AND OURSELVES.

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THE BIBLE IS THE WORD OF GOD, AND IT IS THE ONLY BOOK THAT CAN GIVE US A TRUE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD AND OURSELVES.



The Walls Fall

AFTER AN ENGRAVING BY JOHN MARTIN, K. L. B.,
THE ENGLISH ARTIST, DIED 1854.



"And it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat."—Jos., 6, 20.

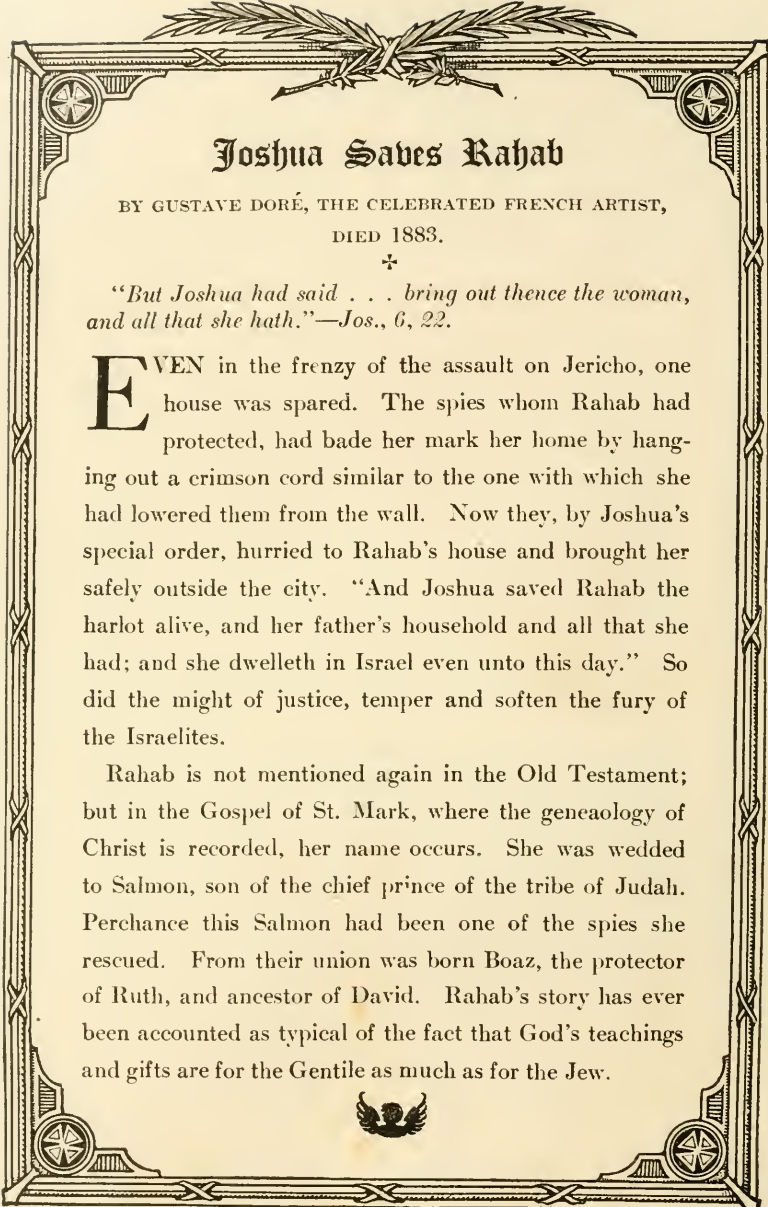
WHEN the seventh day of the strange siege dawned, Joshua commanded that the ceremonial circuit of Jericho be performed seven times instead of once. As the seventh round was completed, the leader suddenly raised his voice above the silence and cried out to his people, "Shout; for the Lord hath given you the city." At that, all Israel gave one great shout high above the noise of the priestly trumpets. And with the outcry the mighty walls of Jericho crumbled into dust; they "fell down flat;" they perished as though they had been but shadows. The hordes of the Israelites rushed forward, they "went up into the city, every man straight before him."

Grim and terrible was the massacre that followed. The religious ecstasy of the Israelites was at its height. Joshua had declared the people of Jericho accursed, and had doomed them with all their property to utter destruction, save only for certain precious metals which were to be preserved for "the treasury of the Lord." These stern commands the Israelites obeyed with savage literalness. The vengeance of their God was upon Jericho. They wiped out the city with fire, and put all its inhabitants to the sword.





2025-01-27



Joshua Saves Rahab

BY GUSTAVE DORÉ, THE CELEBRATED FRENCH ARTIST,
DIED 1883.



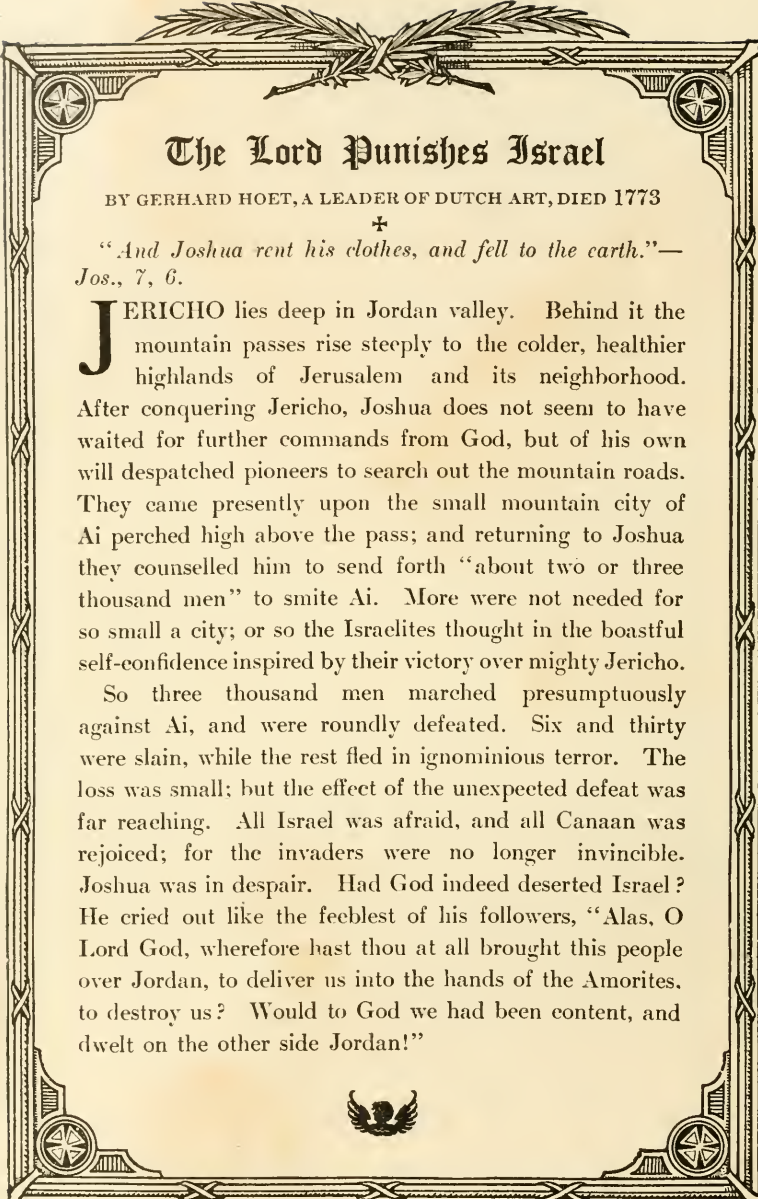
"But Joshua had said . . . bring out thence the woman, and all that she hath."—Jos., 6, 22.

EVEN in the frenzy of the assault on Jericho, one house was spared. The spies whom Rahab had protected, had bade her mark her home by hanging out a crimson cord similar to the one with which she had lowered them from the wall. Now they, by Joshua's special order, hurried to Rahab's house and brought her safely outside the city. "And Joshua saved Rahab the harlot alive, and her father's household and all that she had; and she dwelleth in Israel even unto this day." So did the might of justice, temper and soften the fury of the Israelites.

Rahab is not mentioned again in the Old Testament; but in the Gospel of St. Mark, where the genealogy of Christ is recorded, her name occurs. She was wedded to Salmon, son of the chief prince of the tribe of Judah. Perchance this Salmon had been one of the spies she rescued. From their union was born Boaz, the protector of Ruth, and ancestor of David. Rahab's story has ever been accounted as typical of the fact that God's teachings and gifts are for the Gentile as much as for the Jew.







The Lord Punishes Israel

BY GERHARD HOET, A LEADER OF DUTCH ART, DIED 1773



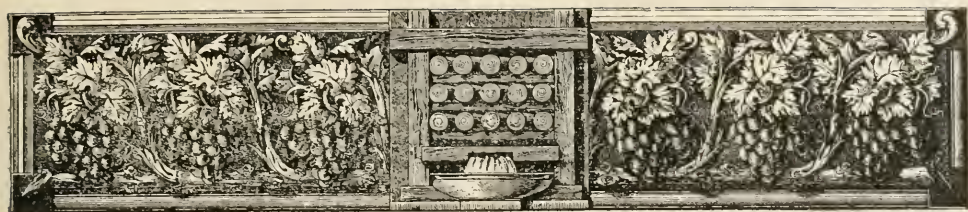
*"And Joshua rent his clothes, and fell to the earth."—
Jos., 7, 6.*

JERICHO lies deep in Jordan valley. Behind it the mountain passes rise steeply to the colder, healthier highlands of Jerusalem and its neighborhood. After conquering Jericho, Joshua does not seem to have waited for further commands from God, but of his own will despatched pioneers to search out the mountain roads. They came presently upon the small mountain city of Ai perched high above the pass; and returning to Joshua they counselled him to send forth "about two or three thousand men" to smite Ai. More were not needed for so small a city; or so the Israelites thought in the boastful self-confidence inspired by their victory over mighty Jericho.

So three thousand men marched presumptuously against Ai, and were roundly defeated. Six and thirty were slain, while the rest fled in ignominious terror. The loss was small; but the effect of the unexpected defeat was far reaching. All Israel was afraid, and all Canaan was rejoiced; for the invaders were no longer invincible. Joshua was in despair. Had God indeed deserted Israel? He cried out like the feeblest of his followers, "Alas, O Lord God, wherefore hast thou at all brought this people over Jordan, to deliver us into the hands of the Amorites, to destroy us? Would to God we had been content, and dwelt on the other side Jordan!"







General Introduction to the Historical Books of the Bible



Before the coming of Christ, the Jewish priesthood had already divided their sacred books, that is, the books of the Old Testament, into three classes. First came the “Law,” the five books of Moses, the most venerated of all. Then came the “Prophets,” and then the “Hagiographa” or holy writings, such as Psalms and Proverbs. The books of the prophets were divided into the “Former Prophets” and the “Latter Prophets.” The historical books from Joshua through II Kings formed the “Former Prophets.” With these were later included the other historical books that immediately follow there in the modern arrangement of the Bible, from Chronicles through Esther; and this entire group are now usually called the Historical Books, though no such division is adopted in the Hebrew Bible.

The Historical Books deal with the history of the Israelites from the time of their entrance into Palestine, down through the “great captivity” at Babylon and the successful reestablishment of the captives in their homes in Palestine. The books thus cover a period of many centuries. In so extended a history wide gaps necessarily appear, different hands take up the tale, different views are held as to Israel’s past and future. There is, in short, no such strong sense of unity or of religious devotion pervading this portion of the Scriptures as impresses the reader in the books of Moses. Nor were

these historical books regarded by the Jews themselves with such reverence as they gave the earlier "Law." Perhaps the book of Joshua was originally part of this Law; but no one of the other writings, even of the "Former Prophets," was admitted to a place in the sacred or "inspired" Scriptures of the Hebrews until toward the close of the period of which they speak. As for the later books of Ezra and Nehemiah they can not have been "added to the canon," that is, accepted as sacred, before the fourth century B. C., while the inspired character of the book of Esther has always continued to some extent a matter of dispute.

The main features of the history of these centuries are, first, a brief period of Israelitish conquest and settlement under Joshua, then long centuries of struggle between the scattered Israelite tribes and the other dwellers in Palestine, or invaders from beyond its borders. During this time the Israelites had no definite union or form of government. They were more or less guided by prophets, priests, "judges," any leader who might spring up. This is sometimes called the period of the Theocracy or God's own rule. Then came the gathering of the scattered tribes under a single military chief or king. Saul began this work; David completed it. About 1000 B. C. he captured Jerusalem and made it the capital of a firmly established government. Thus the Israelites passed out of that earlier stage of civilization in which they had been but a number of disunited tribes, semi-nomadic, feeble because of their lack of harmony and discipline. They became a nation.

This nation, under the leadership of David's wisdom and the military prowess of his generals, made considerable conquests even beyond the borders of Palestine. For a moment the bounds of the Hebrew state reached to the Euphrates River, the widest marge suggested for it in the promises of Genesis. The realm which David had thus established, his son Solomon governed in peace and splendor. There existed however an unescapable element of dissension, in the superiority which the men of Judah assumed over the other Israelites. Not only was Judah much the strongest tribe, it was also the family of the kingly race. Hence its members drew a haughty distinction between themselves and the other Israelites; and less than a century after its establishment the kingdom of David was divided into two separate states. Judah, the mountain kingdom of the south, which

included Benjamin, was divided from, and even antagonistic to, Israel, the kingdom of the central and northern Hebrews.

During the following centuries, these divided states struggled ever more feebly against each other and against foreign invasion. The northern kingdom perished in 722 B. C. and the southern in 587 B. C. when Jerusalem was utterly destroyed and the last remnant of its people carried captive to Babylon. Half a century later the Persian conqueror of Babylon permitted the exiles to return. Only comparatively few did return; and the community was no longer an independent state. Under the name of Judah or Judea, whence comes our word Jew, the ancient land of Israel had become a Persian province.

This story, especially the latter part of it, the grim tragedy of declining power and decaying faith, is told twice over in the Bible. The first series of Historical Books, extending through II. Kings tells it fully from a popular standpoint. Then I. Chronicles begins again with Adam and the whole is retold in briefer form as a sort of genealogical record, which expands into fuller and fuller detail as it approaches the closing period and, in the book of Nehemiah, tells of the days of priestly rule in the Persian province of Judea.



Introduction to the Book of Joshua

The book of Joshua is, at least in parts, ancient. Early Jewish and Christian scholars supposed it to have been written by Joshua himself or under his directions; but in its present form the book seems to be a compilation and revision of narratives, written a few centuries after the conquest of Canaan. So close, however, is the resemblance between this work and the five books of Moses that it has often been classed with them, and instead of the pentateuch or fivefold holy writings, scholars have spoken of the hexateuch or six holy books.

The narrative in Joshua serves as a natural conclusion to the works of Moses, as well as a natural introduction to the historical books that follow. It tells of the first entry into the promised land, of the conquest of the territory, and of its division among the tribes of Israel. Thus we find in Joshua the fulfilment of the prophecies of the pentateuch; and we find also the first suggestions of the Hebrews' later entanglements, and of the punishments which they had been forewarned must follow upon sin.

Structurally the book divides itself into three parts. The first twelve chapters tell in a single vigorous, swift-flowing narrative of the successive triumphs of Joshua, the miraculous crossing of the Jordan, the downfall of Jericho, the overthrow of Ai, the submission of Gibeon, the conquest of the southern kings and then of those of the north. Chapters thirteen to twenty-one are wholly different; they describe the partition of the land among the tribes of Israel. This topographical survey is so minute and so complete that it forms in itself perhaps the most valuable and interesting geographical document that has come down to us from ancient times. The majority of the cities mentioned and localities described can still be recognized. Then comes the closing portion of the book, which does for Joshua what Deuteronomy does for Moses, gives an account of his farewell to his people, his final passionate appeals to them for obedience to God, and then his death.



THE BOOK OF

Joshua

Chapter 1

1 The Lord appointeth Joshua to succeed Moses. 3 The borders of the promised land. 5, 9 God promiseth to assist Joshua. 8 He giveth him instructions. 10 He prepareth the people to pass over Jordan. 12 Joshua putteth the two tribes and a half in mind of their promise to Moses. 16 They promise him fealty.



OW after the death of Moses, the servant of the LORD, it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying,

2 Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, *even* to the children of Israel.

3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon *even* unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, *so* I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

6 Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swore unto their fathers to give them.

7 Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it *to* the right hand or *to* the left, that thou mayest prosper¹ whithersoever thou goest.

8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do

¹The word "prosper" may also be translated "deal wisely."

according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God *is* with thee whithersoever thou goest.

10 ¶ Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying,

11 Pass through the host, and command the people, saying, Prepare you victuals; for within three days ye shall pass over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land, which the LORD your God giveth you to possess it.

12 ¶ And to the Reubenites, and to the Gadites, and to half the tribe of Manasseh, spake Joshua, saying,

13 Remember the word which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, saying, The LORD your God hath given you rest, and hath given you this land.

14 Your wives, your little ones, and your cattle, shall remain in the land which Moses gave you on this side Jordan: but ye shall pass before your brethren armed, all the mighty men of valour, and help them;

15 Until the LORD have given your brethren rest, as *he hath given* you, and they also have possessed the land which the LORD your God giveth them: then ye shall return unto the land of your possession, and enjoy it, which Moses the LORD's servant gave you on this side Jordan toward the sun-rising.

16 ¶ And they answered Joshua, saying, All that thou commandest us we will do, and whithersoever thou sendest us, we will go.

17 According as we hearkened unto Moses in all things, so will we hearken unto thee: only the LORD thy God be with thee, as he was with Moses.

18 Whosoever *he be* that doth rebel against thy commandment, and will not hearken unto thy words in all that thou commandest him, he shall be put to death: only be strong and of a good courage.

Chapter 2

1 Rahab receiveth and concealeth the two spies sent from Shittim. 8 The covenant between her and them. 23 Their return and relation.

AND Joshua the son of Nun sent out of Shittim two men to spy secretly, saying, Go view the land, even Jericho.¹ And they went, and came into an harlot's house, named Rahab, and lodged there.

2 And it was told the king of Jericho, saying, Behold, there came men in hither to-night of the children of Israel to search out the country.

¹Ancient Jericho was at this time the chief city of the Jordan valley, lying not far from the junction of the river with the Dead Sea, about two miles north of the ruins of modern Jericho.

3 And the king of Jericho sent unto Rahab, saying, Bring forth the men that are come to thee, which are entered into thine house: for they be come to search out all the country.

4 And the woman took the two men, and hid them, and said thus, There came men unto me, but I wist not whence they *were*:

5 And it came to pass *about the time* of shutting of the gate, when it was dark, that the men went out: whither the men went, I wot not: pursue after them quickly; for ye shall overtake them.

6 But she had brought them up to the roof of the house, and hid them with the stalks of flax, which she had laid in order upon the roof.

7 And the men pursued after them the way to Jordan unto the fords: and as soon as they which pursued after them were gone out, they shut the gate.

8 ¶ And before they were laid down, she came up unto them upon the roof;

9 And she said unto the men, I know that the LORD hath given you the land, and that your terror is fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land faint¹ because of you.

10 For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea for you, when ye came out of Egypt; and what ye did unto the two kings of the Amorites, that *were* on the other side Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom ye utterly destroyed.

11 And as soon as we had heard *these things*, our hearts did melt, neither did there remain any more courage in any man, because of you: for the LORD your God, he *is* God in heaven above, and in earth beneath.

12 Now therefore, I pray you, swear unto me by the LORD, since I have shewed you kindness, that ye will also shew kindness unto my father's house, and give me a true token:

13 And *that* ye will save alive my father, and my mother, and my brethren, and my sisters, and all that they have, and deliver our lives from death.

14 And the men answered her, Our life for yours, if ye utter not this our business. And it shall be, when the LORD hath given us the land, that we will deal kindly and truly with thee.

15 Then she let them down by a cord through the window: for her house *was* upon the town wall, and she dwelt upon the wall.

16 And she said unto them, Get you to the mountain, lest the pursuers meet you: and hide yourselves there three days until the pursuers be returned: and afterward may ye go your way.

17 And the men said unto her, We *will be* blameless of this thine oath which thou hast made us swear.

18 Behold, *when* we come into the land, thou shalt bind this line

¹The Revised Version in this and other passages says of the inhabitants not that they faint, but "melt away before you."

of scarlet thread in the window which thou didst let us down by: and thou shalt bring thy father, and thy mother, and thy brethren, and all thy father's household, home unto thee.

19 And it shall be, *that* whosoever shall go out of the doors of thy house into the street, his blood *shall be* upon his head, and we *will be* guiltless: and whosoever shall be with thee in the house, his blood *shall be* on our head, if *any* hand be upon him.

20 And if thou utter this our business, then we will be quit of thine oath which thou hast made us to swear.

21 And she said, According unto your words, so *be* it. And she sent them away, and they departed: and she bound the scarlet line in the window.

22 And they went, and came unto the mountain, and abode there three days, until the pursuers were returned: and the pursuers sought *them* throughout all the way, but found *them* not.

23 ¶ So the two men returned, and descended from the mountain, and passed over, and came to Joshua the son of Nun, and told him all *things* that befell them:

24 And they said unto Joshua, Truly the LORD hath delivered into our hands all the land; for even all the inhabitants of the country do faint because of us.

Chapter 3

1 Joshua cometh to Jordan. 2 The officers instruct the people for the passage. 7 The Lord encourageth Joshua. 9 Joshua encourageth the people. 14 The waters of Jordan are dividid.

AND Joshua rose early in the morning; and they removed from Shittim, and came to Jordan, he and all the children of Israel, and lodged there before they passed over.

2 And it came to pass after three days, that the officers went through the host;

3 And they commanded the people, saying, When ye see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the priests the Levites bearing it, then ye shall remove from your place, and go after it.

4 Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure: come not near unto it, that ye may know the way by which ye must go: for ye have not passed *this* way heretofore.

5 And Joshua said unto the people, Sanctify yourselves: for tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you.

6 And Joshua spake unto the priests, saying, Take up the ark of the covenant, and pass over before the people. And they took up the ark of the covenant, and went before the people.

7 ¶ And the LORD said unto Joshua, This day will I begin to magnify thee in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee.

8 And thou shalt command the priests that bear the ark of the

covenant, saying, When ye are come to the brink of the water of Jordan, ye shall stand still in Jordan.

9 ¶ And Joshua said unto the children of Israel, Come hither, and hear the words of the LORD your God.

10 And Joshua said, Hereby ye shall know that the living God *is* among you, and *that* he will without fail drive out from before you the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Hivites, and the Perizzites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Jebusites.

11 Behold, the ark of the covenant of the LORD of all the earth passeth over before you into Jordan.

12 Now therefore take you twelve men out of the tribes of Israel, out of every tribe a man.

13 And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests that bear the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of Jordan, *that* the waters of Jordan shall be cut off *from* the waters that come down from above; and they shall stand upon an heap.

14 ¶ And it came to pass, when the people removed from their tents, to pass over Jordan, and the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people;

15 And as they that bare the ark were come unto Jordan, and the feet of the priests that bare the ark were dipped in the brim of the water, (for Jordan overfloweth all his banks all the time of harvest.)

16 That the waters which came down from above stood *and* rose up upon an heap very far from the city Adam,¹ *that is* beside Zaretan: and those that came down toward the sea of the plain, *even* the salt sea, failed, *and* were cut off: and the people passed over right against Jericho.

17 And the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the midst of Jordan, and all the Israelites passed over on dry ground, until all the people were passed clean over Jordan.²

Chapter 4

1 Twelve men are appointed to take twelve stones for a memorial out of Jordan. 9 Twelve other stones are set up in the midst of Jordan. 10, 19 The people pass over. 14 God magnified Joshua. 20 The twelve stones are pitched in Gilgal.



ND it came to pass, when all the people were clean passed over Jordan, that the LORD spake unto Joshua, saying,

2 Take you twelve men out of the people, out of every tribe a man,

3 And command ye them, saying, Take you hence out of the midst of Jordan, out of the place where the priests' feet stood firm, twelve

¹The Revised Version makes the meaning clearer by saying that the waters "rose up in one heap, a great way off, at Adam, etc." ²This passage over Jordan occurred in the month of April, the time of the first or spring harvesting, when the river is at its fullest.

stones, and ye shall carry them over with you, and leave them in the lodging place, where ye shall lodge this night.

4 Then Joshua called the twelve men, whom he had prepared of the children of Israel, out of every tribe a man:

5 And Joshua said unto them, Pass over before the ark of the LORD your God into the midst of Jordan, and take you up every man of you a stone upon his shoulder, according unto the number of the tribes of the children of Israel:

6 That this may be a sign among you, *that* when your children ask *their fathers* in time to come, saying, What *mean* ye by these stones?

7 Then ye shall answer them, That the waters of Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD; when it passed over Jordan, the waters of Jordan were cut off: and these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel for ever.

8 And the children of Israel did so as Joshua commanded, and took up twelve stones out of the midst of Jordan, as the LORD spake unto Joshua, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel, and carried them over with them unto the place where they lodged, and laid them down there.

9 And Joshua set up twelve stones in the midst of Jordan, in the place where the feet of the priests which bare the ark of the covenant stood: and they are there unto this day.

10 ¶ For the priests which bare the ark stood in the midst of Jordan, until every thing was finished that the LORD commanded Joshua to speak unto the people, according to all that Moses commanded Joshua: and the people hasted and passed over.

11 And it came to pass, when all the people were clean passed over, that the ark of the LORD passed over, and the priests, in the presence of the people.

12 And the children of Reuben, and the children of Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh, passed over armed before the children of Israel, as Moses spake unto them:

13 About forty thousand prepared for war passed over before the LORD unto battle, to the plains of Jericho.

14 ¶ On that day the LORD magnified Joshua in the sight of all Israel; and they feared him, as they feared Moses, all the days of his life.

15 And the LORD spake unto Joshua, saying,

16 Command the priests that bear the ark of the testimony, that they come up out of Jordan.

17 Joshua therefore commanded the priests, saying, Come ye up out of Jordan.

18 And it came to pass, when the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD were come up out of the midst of Jordan, *and* the soles of the priests' feet were lifted up unto the dry land, that

the waters of Jordan returned unto their place, and flowed over all his banks, as *they did* before.

19 ¶ And the people came up out of Jordan on the tenth *day* of the first month, and encamped in Gilgal, in the east border of Jericho.

20 And those twelve stones, which they took out of Jordan, did Joshua pitch in Gilgal.

21 And he spake unto the children of Israel, saying, When your children shall ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What *mean* these stones?

22 Then ye shall let your children know, saying, Israel came over this Jordan on dry land.

23 For the LORD your God dried up the waters of Jordan from before you, until ye were passed over, as the LORD your God did to the Red Sea, which he dried up from before us, until we were gone over:

24 That all the people of the earth might know the hand of the LORD, that it *is* mighty: that ye might fear the LORD your God for ever.¹

Chapter 5

¹ The Canaanites are afraid. ² Joshua reneweth circumcision. ¹⁰ The passover is kept at Gilgal. ¹² Manna ceaseth. ¹³ An Angel appeareth to Joshua.

AND it came to pass, when all the kings of the Amorites, which *were* on the side of Jordan westward, and all the kings of the Canaanites, which *were* by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the waters of Jordan from before the children of Israel, until we were passed over, that their heart melted, neither was there spirit in them any more, because of the children of Israel.

2 ¶ At that time the LORD said unto Joshua, Make thee sharp knives, and circumcise again the children of Israel the second time.

3 And Joshua made him sharp knives,² and circumcised the children of Israel at the hill of the foreskins.

4 And this *is* the cause why Joshua did circumcise: All the people that came out of Egypt, *that were* males, *even* all the men of war, died in the wilderness by the way, after they came out of Egypt.

5 Now all the people that came out were circumcised: but all the people *that were* born in the wilderness by the way as they came forth out of Egypt, *them* they had not circumcised.

6 For the children of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, till all the people *that were* men of war, which came out of Egypt, were consumed, because they obeyed not the voice of the LORD: unto whom the LORD sware that he would not shew them the land, which the LORD sware unto their fathers that he would give us, a land that floweth with milk and honey.

¹This last clause is altered in the Revised Version to read "that they may fear, etc." ²Or "knives of flint."

7 And their children, *whom* he raised up in their stead, them Joshua circumcised: for they were uncircumcised, because they had not circumcised them by the way.

8 And it came to pass, when they had done circumcising all the people, that they abode in their places in the camp, till they were whole.

9 And the LORD said unto Joshua, This day have I rolled away the reproach of Egypt from off you. Wherefore the name of the place is called Gilgal¹ unto this day.

10 ¶ And the children of Israel encamped in Gilgal, and kept the passover on the fourteenth day of the month at even in the plains of Jericho.²

11 And they did eat of the old corn of the land on the morrow after the passover, unleavened cakes, and parched *corn* in the selfsame day.

12 ¶ And the manna ceased on the morrow after they had eaten of the old corn of the land; neither had the children of Israel manna any more; but they did eat of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.

13 ¶ And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, *Art* thou for us, or for our adversaries?

14 And he said, Nay; but *as* captain of the host of the LORD am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant?

15 And the captain of the LORD's host said unto Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy. And Joshua did so.

Chapter 6

¹ Jericho is shut up. ² God instructeth Joshua how to besiege it. ¹² The city is compassed. ¹⁷ It must be accursed. ²⁰ The walls fall down. ²² Rahab is saved. ²⁶ The builder of Jericho is cursed.

NOW Jericho was straitly shut up because of the children of Israel: none went out, and none came in.

2 And the LORD said unto Joshua, See I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, *and* the mighty men of valour.³

3 And ye shall compass the city, all *ye* men of war, *and* go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days.

4 And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets.

5 And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long *blast* with the ram's horn, *and* when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the

¹Gilgal comes from the verb *galal*, meaning "to roll." ²This feast of the passover completed the forty years from the time of the first passover in Egypt. ³Apparently this verse continues the address of the "captain of the Lord's host" in the preceding chapter.

people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend up every man straight before him.

6 ¶ And Joshua the son of Nun called the priests, and said unto them, Take up the ark of the covenant, and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD.

7 And he said unto the people, Pass on, and compass the city, and let him that is armed pass on before the ark of the LORD.

8 ¶ And it came to pass, when Joshua had spoken unto the people, that the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns passed on before the LORD, and blew with the trumpets: and the ark of the covenant of the LORD followed them.

9 ¶ And the armed men went before the priests that blew with the trumpets, and the rereward came after the ark, *the priests* going on, and blowing with the trumpets.

10 And Joshua had commanded the people, saying, Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall *any* word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I bid you shout; then shall ye shout.

11 So the ark of the LORD compassed the city, going about *it* once: and they came into the camp, and lodged in the camp.

12 ¶ And Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the LORD.

13 And seven priests bearing seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD went on continually, and blew with the trumpets: and the armed men went before them; but the rereward came after the ark of the LORD, *the priests* going on, and blowing with the trumpets.

14 And the second day they compassed the city once, and returned into the camp: so they did six days.

15 And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they rose early about the dawning of the day, and compassed the city after the same manner seven times: only on that day they compassed the city seven times.

16 And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said unto the people, Shout; for the LORD hath given you the city.

17 ¶ And the city shall be accursed,¹ *even* it, and all that *are* therein, to the LORD: only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all that *are* with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent.

18 And ye, in any wise keep *yourselves* from the accursed thing, lest ye make *yourselves* accursed, when ye take the accursed thing, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it.

19 But all the silver, and gold, and vessels, of brass and iron, *are*

¹The Revised Version changes "accursed" to "devoted" in this and the following verses.

consecrated unto the LORD: they shall come into the treasury of the LORD.

20 So the people shouted when *the priests* blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

21 And they utterly destroyed all that *was* in the city, both man and woman, young and old, and ox, and sheep, and ass, with the edge of the sword.

22 But Joshua had said unto the two men that had spied out the country, Go into the harlot's house, and bring out thence the woman, and all that she hath, as ye sware unto her.

23 And the young men that were spies went in, and brought out Rahab, and her father, and her mother, and her brethren, and all that she had; and they brought out all her kindred, and left them without the camp of Israel.

24 And they burnt the city with fire, and all that *was* therein: only the silver, and the gold, and the vessels of brass and of iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the LORD.

25 And Joshua saved Rahab the harlot alive, and her father's household, and all that she had; and she dwelleth in Israel *even* unto this day; because she hid the messengers, which Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.

26 ¶ And Joshua adjured *them* at that time, saying, Cursed *be* the man before the LORD, that riseth up and buildeth this city Jericho: he shall lay the foundation thereof in his firstborn, and in his youngest *son* shall he set up the gates of it.

27 So the LORD was with Joshua; and his fame was *noised* throughout all the country.

Chapter 7

1 The Israelites are smitten at Ai. 6 Joshua's complaint. 10 God instructeth him what to do. 16 Achan is taken by the lot. 19 His confession. 22 He and all he had are destroyed in the valley of Achor.

BUT the children of Israel committed a trespass in the accursed thing: for Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the accursed thing: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against the children of Israel.

2 And Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which *is* beside Beth-aven, on the east side of Beth-el, and spake unto them, saying, Go up and view the country. And the men went up and viewed Ai.

3 And they returned to Joshua, and said unto him, Let not all the people go up; but let about two or three thousand men go up and smite Ai; *and* make not all the people to labour thither; for they *are but* few.

4 So there went up thither of the people about three thousand men: and they fled before the men of Ai.

5 And the men of Ai smote of them about thirty and six men: for they chased them *from* before the gate *even* unto Shebarim, and smote them in the going down: wherefore the hearts of the people melted, and became as water.

6 ¶ And Joshua rent his clothes, and fell to the earth upon his face before the ark of the LORD until the eventide, he and the elders of Israel, and put dust upon their heads.

7 And Joshua said, Alas, O Lord God, wherefore hast thou at all brought this people over Jordan, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us? would to God we had been content, and dwelt on the other side Jordan?

8 O Lord, what shall I say, when Israel turneth their backs before their enemies!

9 For the Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land shall hear *of it*, and shall environ us round, and cut off our name from the earth: and what wilt thou do unto thy great name?

10 ¶ And the LORD said unto Joshua, Get thee up; wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face?

11 Israel hath sinned, and they have also transgressed my covenant which I commanded them: for they have even taken of the accursed thing, and have also stolen, and dissembled also, and they have put *it* even among their own stuff.¹

12 Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies, *but* turned *their* backs before their enemies, because they were accursed: neither will I be with you any more, except ye destroy the accursed from among you.

13 Up, sanctify the people, and say, Sanctify yourselves against to-morrow: for thus saith the LORD God of Israel, *There is* an accursed thing in the midst of thee, O Israel: thou canst not stand before thine enemies, until ye take away the accursed thing from among you.

14 In the morning therefore ye shall be brought according to your tribes: and it shall be, *that* the tribe which the LORD taketh shall come according to the families *thereof*; and the family which the LORD shall take shall come by households; and the household which the LORD shall take shall come man by man.

15 And it shall be, *that* he that is taken with the accursed thing shall be burnt with fire, he and all that he hath: because he hath transgressed the covenant of the LORD, and because he hath wrought folly in Israel.

16 ¶ So Joshua rose up early in the morning, and brought Israel by their tribes; and the tribe of Judah was taken:

¹As noted in the preceding chapter, this "accursed thing" is spoken of in the Revised Version as a "devoted thing," the meaning being that every article within the city was to be "devoted" to God, and to be destroyed.

17 And he brought the family of Judah; and he took the family of the Zarhites: and he brought the family of the Zarhites man by man; and Zabdi was taken:

18 And he brought his household man by man; and Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was taken.

19 And Joshua said unto Achan, My son, give, I pray thee, glory to the LORD God of Israel and make confession unto him; and tell me now what thou hast done; hide *it* not from me.

20 And Achan answered Joshua, and said, Indeed I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and thus and thus have I done:

21 When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them, and took them; and, behold, they *are* hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it.

22 ¶ So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran unto the tent; and, behold, *it was* hid in his tent, and the silver under it.

23 And they took them out of the midst of the tent, and brought them unto Joshua, and unto all the children of Israel, and laid them out before the LORD.

24 And Joshua, and all Israel with him, took Achan the son of Zerah, and the silver, and the garment, and the wedge of gold, and his sons, and his daughters, and his oxen, and his asses, and his sheep, and his tent, and all that he had: and they brought them unto the valley of Achor.

25 And Joshua said, Why hast thou troubled us? the LORD shall trouble thee this day. And all Israel stoned him with stones, and burned them with fire, after they had stoned them with stones.

26 And they raised over him a great heap of stones unto this day. So the LORD turned from the fierceness of his anger. Wherefore the name of that place was called, The valley of Achor, unto this day.¹

Chapter 8

1 God encourageth Joshua. 3 The stratagem whereby Ai was taken. 29 The king thereof is hanged. 30 Joshua buildeth an altar, 32 writeth the law on stones, 33 propoundeth blessings and cursings.

AND the LORD said unto Joshua, Fear not, neither be thou dismayed: take all the people of war with thee, and arise, go up to Ai: see, I have given into thy hand the king of Ai, and his people, and his city, and his land.

2 And thou shalt do to Ai and her king as thou didst unto Jericho and her king: only the spoil thereof, and the cattle thereof, shall ye take for a prey unto yourselves: lay thee an ambush for the city behind it.

3 ¶ So Joshua arose, and all the people of war, to go up against

¹Achor means "trouble."

Ai: and Joshua chose out thirty thousand mighty men of valour, and sent them away by night.

4 And he commanded them, saying, Behold, ye shall lie in wait against the city, *even* behind the city: go not very far from the city, but be ye all ready:

5 And I, and all the people that *are* with me, will approach unto the city: and it shall come to pass, when they come out against us, as at the first, that we will flee before them,

6 (For they will come out after us.) till we have drawn them from the city: for they will say, They flee before us, as at the first: therefore we will flee before them.

7 Then ye shall rise up from the ambush, and seize upon the city: for the LORD your God will deliver it into your hand.

8 And it shall be, when ye have taken the city, *that* ye shall set the city on fire: according to the commandment of the LORD shall ye do. See, I have commanded you.

9 ¶ Joshua therefore sent them forth: and they went to lie in ambush, and abode between Beth-el and Ai, on the west side of Ai: but Joshua lodged that night among the people.

10 And Joshua rose up early in the morning, and numbered¹ the people, and went up, he and the elders of Israel, before the people to Ai.

11 And all the people, *even the people* of war that *were* with him, went up, and drew nigh, and came before the city, and pitched on the north side of Ai: now *there was* a valley between them and Ai.

12 And he took about five thousand men, and set them to lie in ambush between Beth-el and Ai, on the west side of the city.

13 And when they had set the people, *even* all the host that *was* on the north of the city, and their liers in wait on the west of the city, Joshua went that night into the midst of the valley.

14 ¶ And it came to pass, when the king of Ai saw *it*, that they hastened and rose up early, and the men of the city went out against Israel to battle, he and all his people, at a time appointed, before the plain; but he wist not that *there were* liers in ambush against him behind the city.

15 And Joshua and all Israel made as if they were beaten before them, and fled by the way of the wilderness.

16 And all the people that *were* in Ai were called together to pursue after them: and they pursued after Joshua, and were drawn away from the city.

17 And there was not a man left in Ai or Beth-el, that went not out after Israel: and they left the city open, and pursued after Israel.

18 And the LORD said unto Joshua, Stretch out the spear that *is* in thy hand toward Ai; for I will give it into thine hand. And Joshua stretched out the spear that *he had* in his hand toward the city.

¹The Revised Version says "mustered."

19 And the ambush arose quickly out of their place, and they ran as soon as he had stretched out his hand: and they entered into the city, and took it, and hasted and set the city on fire.

20 And when the men of Ai looked behind them, they saw, and, behold, the smoke of the city ascended up to heaven, and they had no power to flee this way or that way: and the people that fled to the wilderness turned back upon the pursuers.

21 And when Joshua and all Israel saw that the ambush had taken the city, and that the smoke of the city ascended, then they turned again, and slew the men of Ai.

22 And the other issued out of the city against them; so they were in the midst of Israel, some on this side, and some on that side: and they smote them, so that they let none of them remain or escape.

23 And the king of Ai they took alive, and brought him to Joshua.

24 And it came to pass, when Israel had made an end of slaying all the inhabitants of Ai in the field, in the wilderness wherein they chased them, and when they were all fallen on the edge of the sword, until they were consumed, that all the Israelites returned unto Ai, and smote it with the edge of the sword.

25 And *so* it was, *that* all that fell that day, both of men and women, *were* twelve thousand, *even* all the men of Ai.

26 For Joshua drew not his hand back, wherewith he stretched out the spear, until he had utterly destroyed all the inhabitants of Ai.

27 Only the cattle and the spoil of that city Israel took for a prey unto themselves, according unto the word of the LORD which he commanded Joshua.

28 And Joshua burnt Ai, and made it an heap for ever, *even* a desolation unto this day.

29 And the king of Ai he hanged on a tree until eventide: and as soon as the sun was down, Joshua commanded that they should take his carcase down from the tree, and cast it at the entering of the gate of the city, and raise thereon a great heap of stones, *that remaineth* unto this day.

30 ¶ Then Joshua built an altar unto the LORD God of Israel in mount Ebal,

31 As Moses the servant of the LORD commanded the children of Israel, as it is written in the book of the law of Moses, an altar of whole stones, over which no man hath lift up *any* iron: and they offered thereon burnt offerings unto the LORD, and sacrificed peace offerings.

32 ¶ And he wrote there upon the stones a copy of the law of Moses, which he wrote in the presence of the children of Israel.

33 And all Israel, and their elders, and officers, and their judges, stood on this side the ark and on that side before the priests the Levites, which bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD, as well the

stranger, as he that was born among them; half of them over against mount Gerizim, and half of them over against mount Ebal; as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded before, that they should bless the people of Israel.

34 And afterward he read all the words of the law, the blessings and cursings, according to all that is written in the book of the law.

35 There was not a word of all that Moses commanded, which Joshua read not before all the congregation of Israel, with the women, and the little ones, and the strangers that were conversant among them.

Chapter 9

1 *The kings combine against Israel.* 3 *The Gibeonites by craft obtain a league.* 16 *For which they are condemned to perpetual bondage.*

AND it came to pass, when all the kings which *were* on this side Jordan, in the hills, and in the valleys, and in all the coasts of the great sea over against Lebanon, the Hittite, and the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite, heard *thereof*;

2 That they gathered themselves together, to fight with Joshua and with Israel, with one accord.

3 ¶ And when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done unto Jericho and to Ai,

4 They did work wilily, and went and made as if they had been ambassadors, and took old sacks upon their asses, and wine bottles, old, and rent, and bound up;

5 And old shoes and clouted¹ upon their feet, and old garments upon them; and all the bread of their provision was dry *and* mouldy.

6 And they went to Joshua unto the camp at Gilgal, and said unto him, and to the men of Israel, We be come from a far country: now therefore make ye a league with us.

7 And the men of Israel said unto the Hivites, Peradventure ye dwell among us; and how shall we make a league with you?

8 And they said unto Joshua, We *are* thy servants. And Joshua said unto them, Who *are* ye? and from whence come ye?

9 And they said unto him, From a very far country thy servants are come because of the name of the LORD thy God: for we have heard the fame of him, and all that he did in Egypt,

10 And all that he did to the two kings of the Amorites, that *were* beyond Jordan, to Sihon king of Heshbon, and to Og king of Bashan, which *was* at Ashtaroath.

11 Wherefore our elders and all the inhabitants of our country spake to us, saying, Take victuals with you for the journey, and go to meet them, and say unto them, We *are* your servants: therefore now make ye a league with us.

12 This our bread we took hot *for* our provision out of our houses

¹ "Clouted" means "patched."

on the day we came forth to go unto you; but now, behold, it is dry, and it is mouldy:

13 And these bottles of wine, which we filled, *were* new; and, behold, they be rent: and these our garments and our shoes are become old by reason of the very long journey.

14 And the men took of their victuals, and asked not *counsel* at the mouth of the LORD.

15 And Joshua made peace with them, and made a league with them, to let them live: and the princes of the congregation sware unto them.

16 ¶ And it came to pass at the end of three days after they had made a league with them, that they heard that they *were* their neighbours, and *that* they dwelt among them.

17 And the children of Israel journeyed, and came unto their cities on the third day. Now their cities *were* Gibeon, and Chephirah, and Beeroth, and Kirjath-jearim.

18 And the children of Israel smote them not, because the princes of the congregation had sworn unto them by the LORD God of Israel. And all the congregation murmured against the princes.

19 But all the princes said unto all the congregation, We have sworn unto them by the LORD God of Israel: now therefore we may not touch them.

20 This we will do to them; we will even let them live, lest wrath be upon us, because of the oath which we sware unto them.

21 And the princes said unto them, Let them live; but let them be hewers of wood and drawers of water unto all the congregation; as the princes had promised them.

22 ¶ And Joshua called for them, and he spake unto them, saying, Wherefore have ye beguiled us, saying, We *are* very far from you; when ye dwell among us?

23 Now therefore ye *are* cursed, and there shall none of you be freed from being bondmen, and hewers of wood and drawers of water for the house of my God.

24 And they answered Joshua, and said, Because it was certainly told thy servants, how that the LORD thy God commanded his servant Moses to give you all the land, and to destroy all the inhabitants of the land from before you, therefore we were sore afraid of our lives because of you, and have done this thing.

25 And now, behold, we *are* in thine hand: as it seemeth good and right unto thee to do unto us, do.

26 And so did he unto them, and delivered them out of the hand of the children of Israel, that they slew them not.

27 And Joshua made them that day hewers of wood and drawers of water for the congregation, and for the altar of the LORD, even unto this day, in the place which he should choose.

Chapter 10

1 Five kings war against Gibeon. 6 Joshua rescueth it. 10 God fighteth against them with hailstones. 12 The sun and moon stand still at the word of Joshua. 16 The five kings are mured in a cave. 22 They are brought forth, 24 scornfully used, 26 and hanged. 28 Seven kings more are conquered. 43 Joshua returneth to Gilgal.

NOW it came to pass, when Adoni-zedec king of Jerusalem had heard how Joshua had taken Ai, and had utterly destroyed it; as he had done to Jericho and her king, so he had done to Ai and her king; and how the inhabitants of Gibeon had made peace with Israel, and were among them;

2 That they feared greatly, because Gibeon *was* a great city, as one of the royal cities, and because it *was* greater than Ai, and all the men thereof *were* mighty.

3 Wherefore Adoni-zedec king of Jerusalem sent unto Hoham king of Hebron, and unto Piram king of Jarmuth, and unto Japhia king of Lachish, and unto Debir king of Eglon, saying,

4 Come up unto me, and help me, that we may smite Gibeon: for it hath made peace with Joshua and with the children of Israel.

5 Therefore the five kings of the Amorites, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, the king of Eglon, gathered themselves together, and went up, they and all their hosts, and encamped before Gibeon, and made war against it.

6 ¶ And the men of Gibeon sent unto Joshua to the camp at Gilgal, saying, Slack not thy hand from thy servants; come up to us quickly, and save us, and help us: for all the kings of the Amorites that dwell in the mountains are gathered together against us.

7 So Joshua ascended from Gilgal, he, and all the people of war with him, and all the mighty men of valour.

8 ¶ And the LORD said unto Joshua, Fear them not: for I have delivered them into thine hand; there shall not a man of them stand before thee.

9 Joshua therefore came unto them suddenly, *and* went up from Gilgal all night.

10 And the LORD discomfited them before Israel, and slew them with a great slaughter at Gibeon, and chased them along the way that goeth up to Beth-horon, and smote them to Azekah, and unto Mak-kedah.

11 And it came to pass, as they fled from before Israel, *and* were in the going down to Beth-horon, that the LORD cast down great stones from heaven upon them unto Azekah, and they died: *they were* more which died with hailstones than *they* whom the children of Israel slew with the sword.

12 ¶ Then spake Joshua to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, Sun stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon.

13 And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. *Is not this written in the book of Jasher?* So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day.

14 And there was no day like that before it or after it, that the LORD hearkened unto the voice of a man: for the LORD fought for Israel.

15 ¶ And Joshua returned and all Israel with him, unto the camp to Gilgal.

16 But these five kings fled, and hid themselves in a cave at Makkedah.

17 And it was told Joshua, saying, The five kings are found hid in a cave at Makkedah.

18 And Joshua said, Roll great stones upon the mouth of the cave, and set men by it for to keep them:

19 And stay ye not, *but* pursue after your enemies, and smite the hindmost of them; suffer them not to enter into their cities: for the LORD your God hath delivered them into your hand.

20 And it came to pass, when Joshua and the children of Israel had made an end of slaying them with a very great slaughter, till they were consumed, that the rest *which* remained of them entered into fenced cities.

21 And all the people returned to the camp to Joshua at Makkedah in peace: none moved his tongue against any of the children of Israel.

22 Then said Joshua, Open the mouth of the cave, and bring out those five kings unto me out of the cave.

23 And they did so, and brought forth those five kings unto him out of the cave, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, *and* the king of Eglon.

24 And it came to pass, when they brought out those kings unto Joshua, that Joshua called for all the men of Israel, and said unto the captains of the men of war which went with him, Come near, put your feet upon the necks of these kings. And they came near, and put their feet upon the necks of them.

25 And Joshua said unto them, Fear not, nor be dismayed, be strong and of good courage: for thus shall the LORD do to all your enemies against whom ye fight.

26 And afterward Joshua smote them, and slew them, and hanged them on five trees: and they were hanging upon the trees until the evening.

27 And it came to pass at the time of the going down of the sun, *that* Joshua commanded, and they took them down off the trees, and cast them into the cave wherein they had been hid, and laid great stones in the cave's mouth, *which remain* until this very day.

28 ¶ And that day Joshua took Makkedah, and smote it with the edge of the sword, and the king thereof he utterly destroyed, them, and all the souls that *were* therein; he let none remain: and he did to the king of Makkedah as he did unto the king of Jericho.

29 Then Joshua passed from Makkedah, and all Israel with him unto Libnah, and fought against Libnah:

30 And the LORD delivered it also, and the king thereof, into the hand of Israel; and he smote it with the edge of the sword, and all the souls that *were* therein; he let none remain in it; but did unto the king thereof as he did unto the king of Jericho.

31 ¶ And Joshua passed from Libnah, and all Israel with him, unto Lachish, and encamped against it, and fought against it:

32 And the LORD delivered Lachish into the hand of Israel, which took it on the second day, and smote it with the edge of the sword, and all the souls that *were* therein, according to all that he had done to Libnah.

33 ¶ Then Horam king of Gezer came up to help Lachish; and Joshua smote him and his people, until he had left him none remaining.

34 ¶ And from Lachish Joshua passed unto Eglon, and all Israel with him: and they encamped against it, and fought against it:

35 And they took it on that day, and smote it with the edge of the sword; and all the souls that *were* therein he utterly destroyed that day, according to all that he had done to Lachish.

36 And Joshua went up from Eglon, and all Israel with him, unto Hebron; and they fought against it:

37 And they took it, and smote it with the edge of the sword, and the king thereof, and all the cities thereof, and all the souls that *were* therein; he left none remaining, according to all that he had done to Eglon; but destroyed it utterly, and all the souls that *were* therein.

38 ¶ And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, to Debir, and fought against it:

39 And he took it, and the king thereof, and all the cities thereof; and they smote them with the edge of the sword, and utterly destroyed all the souls that *were* therein; he left none remaining: as he had done to Hebron, so he did to Debir, and to the king thereof; as he had done also to Libnah, and to her king.

40 ¶ So Joshua smote all the country of the hills, and of the south, and of the vale, and of the springs, and all their kings: he left none remaining, but utterly destroyed all that breathed, as the LORD God of Israel commanded.

41 And Joshua smote them from Kadesh-barnea even unto Gaza, and all the country of Goshen, even unto Gibeon.

42 And all these kings and their land did Joshua take at one time, because the LORD God of Israel fought for Israel.

43 And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, unto the camp to Gilgal.

Chapter 11

1 Divers kings overcome at the waters of Merom. 10 Hazor is taken and burnt. 16 All the country taken by Joshua. 21 The Anakims cut off.

AND it came to pass, when Jabin king of Hazor had heard *those things*, that he sent to Jobab king of Madon, and to the king of Shimron, and to the king of Achshaph,

2 And to the kings that *were* on the north of the mountains, and of the plains south of Chinneroth, and in the valley, and in the borders of Dor on the west,

3 And to the Canaanite on the east and on the west, and to the Amorite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, and the Jebusite in the mountains, and to the Hivite under Hermon in the land of Mizpeh.

4 And they went out, they and all their hosts with them, much people, even as the sand that *is* upon the seashore in multitude, with horses and chariots very many.

5 And when all these kings were met together, they came and pitched together at the waters of Merom, to fight against Israel.¹

6 ¶ And the LORD said unto Joshua, Be not afraid because of them: for to-morrow about this time will I deliver them up all slain before Israel: thou shalt hough their horses, and burn their chariots with fire.

7 So Joshua came, and all the people of war with him, against them by the waters of Merom suddenly; and they fell upon them.

8 And the LORD delivered them into the hand of Israel, who smote them, and chased them unto great Zidon, and unto Misrephoth-maim, and unto the valley of Mizpeh eastward; and they smote them, until they left them none remaining.

9 And Joshua did unto them as the LORD bade him: he houghed their horses, and burnt their chariots with fire.

10 ¶ And Joshua at that time turned back, and took Hazor, and smote the king thereof with the sword: for Hazor beforetime was the head of all those kingdoms.

11 And they smote all the souls that *were* therein with the edge of the sword, utterly destroying *them*: there was not any left to breathe: and he burnt Hazor with fire.

12 And all the cities of those kings, and all the kings of them, did Joshua take, and smote them with the edge of the sword, and he utterly destroyed them, as Moses, the servant of the LORD commanded.

13 But *as for* the cities that stood still in their strength,² Israel burned none of them, save Hazor only; *that* did Joshua burn.

¹These were the city kings of northern Palestine. The sites of some of the places mentioned are now unknown, but "the waters of Merom" is a name given a lake of the upper Jordan, about ten miles above the Sea of Galilee. ²This translation is corrected in the Revised Version, to read "that stood on their mounds," that is, the hill cities.

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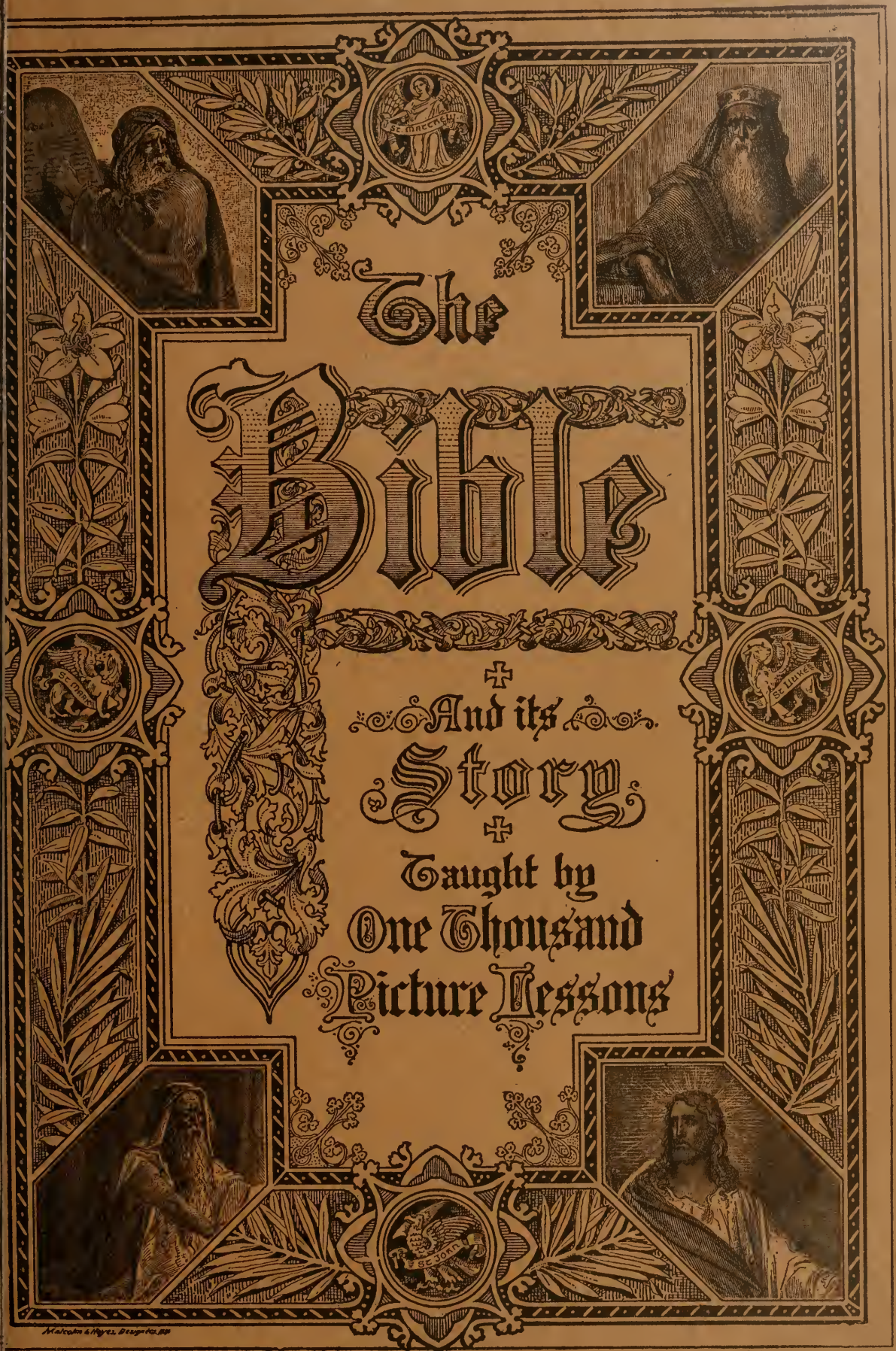
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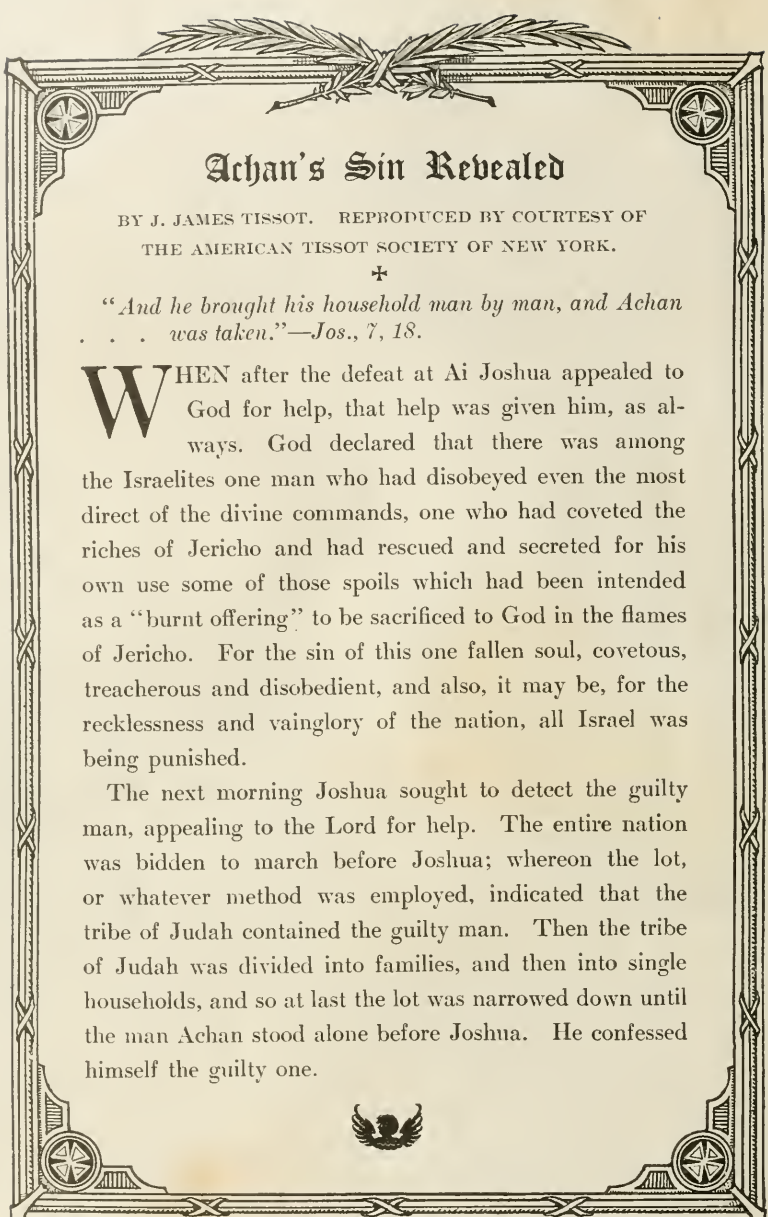
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Achan's Sin Revealed

BY J. JAMES TISSOT. REPRODUCED BY COURTESY OF
THE AMERICAN TISSOT SOCIETY OF NEW YORK.



*"And he brought his household man by man, and Achan
was taken."—Jos., 7, 18.*

WHEN after the defeat at Ai Joshua appealed to God for help, that help was given him, as always. God declared that there was among the Israelites one man who had disobeyed even the most direct of the divine commands, one who had coveted the riches of Jericho and had rescued and secreted for his own use some of those spoils which had been intended as a "burnt offering" to be sacrificed to God in the flames of Jericho. For the sin of this one fallen soul, covetous, treacherous and disobedient, and also, it may be, for the recklessness and vainglory of the nation, all Israel was being punished.

The next morning Joshua sought to detect the guilty man, appealing to the Lord for help. The entire nation was bidden to march before Joshua; whereon the lot, or whatever method was employed, indicated that the tribe of Judah contained the guilty man. Then the tribe of Judah was divided into families, and then into single households, and so at last the lot was narrowed down until the man Achan stood alone before Joshua. He confessed himself the guilty one.





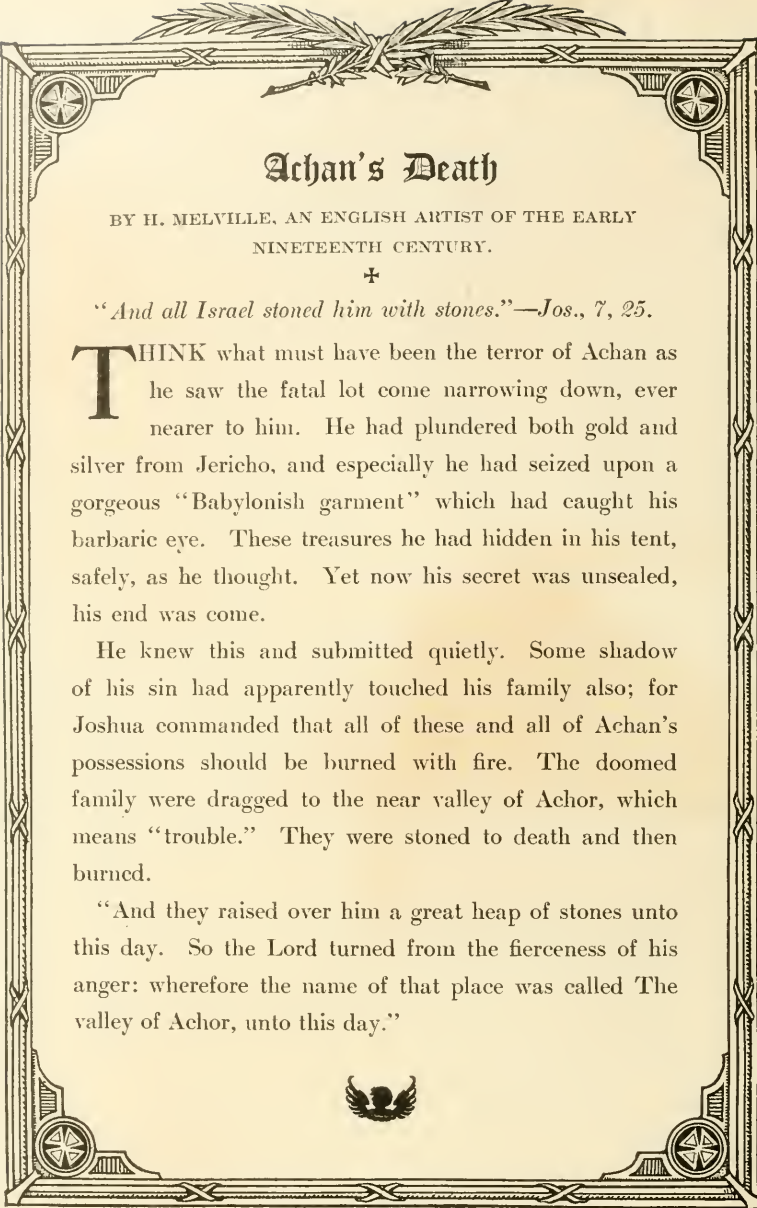
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Achan's Death

BY H. MELVILLE. AN ENGLISH ARTIST OF THE EARLY
NINETEENTH CENTURY.



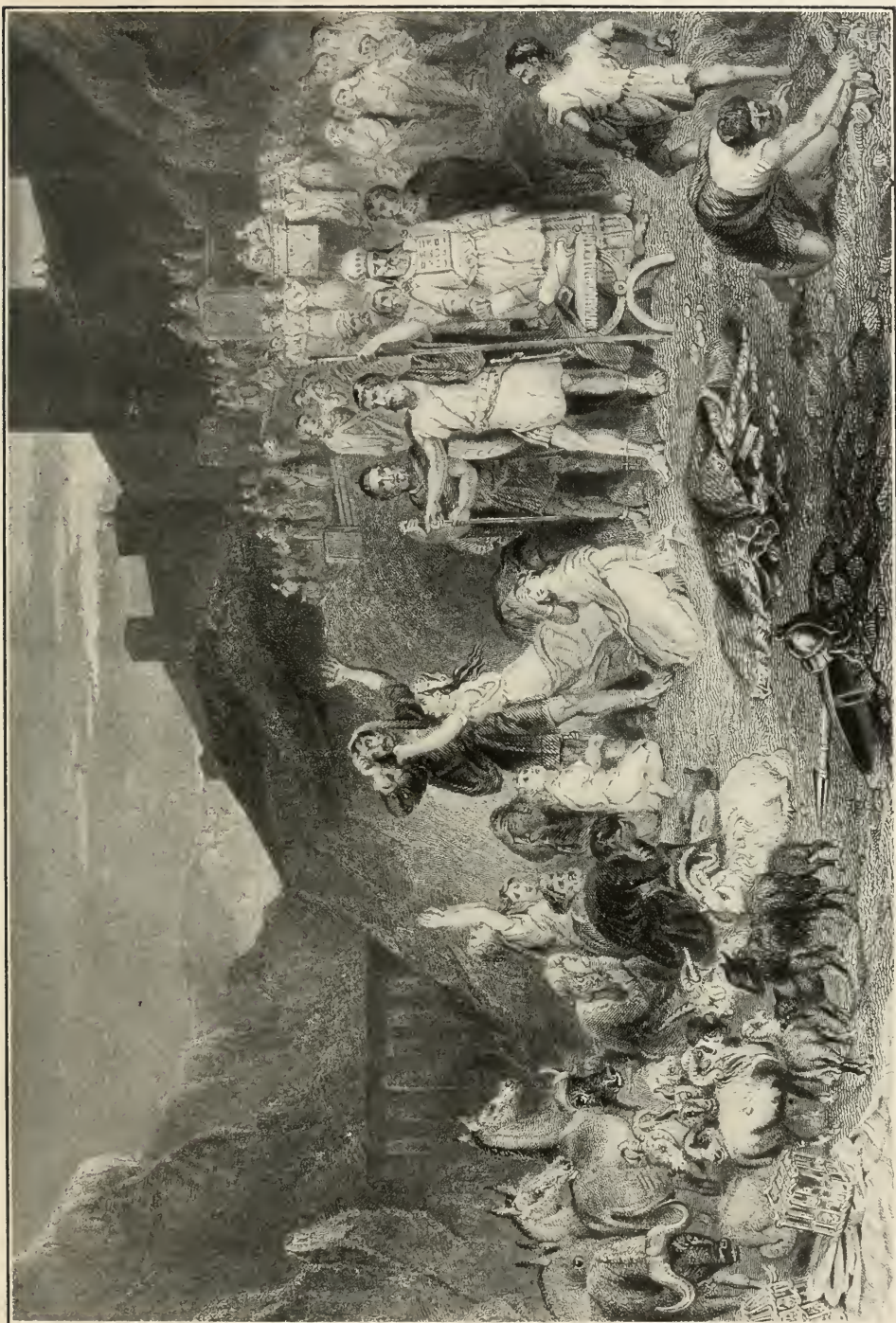
"And all Israel stoned him with stones."—Jos., 7, 25.

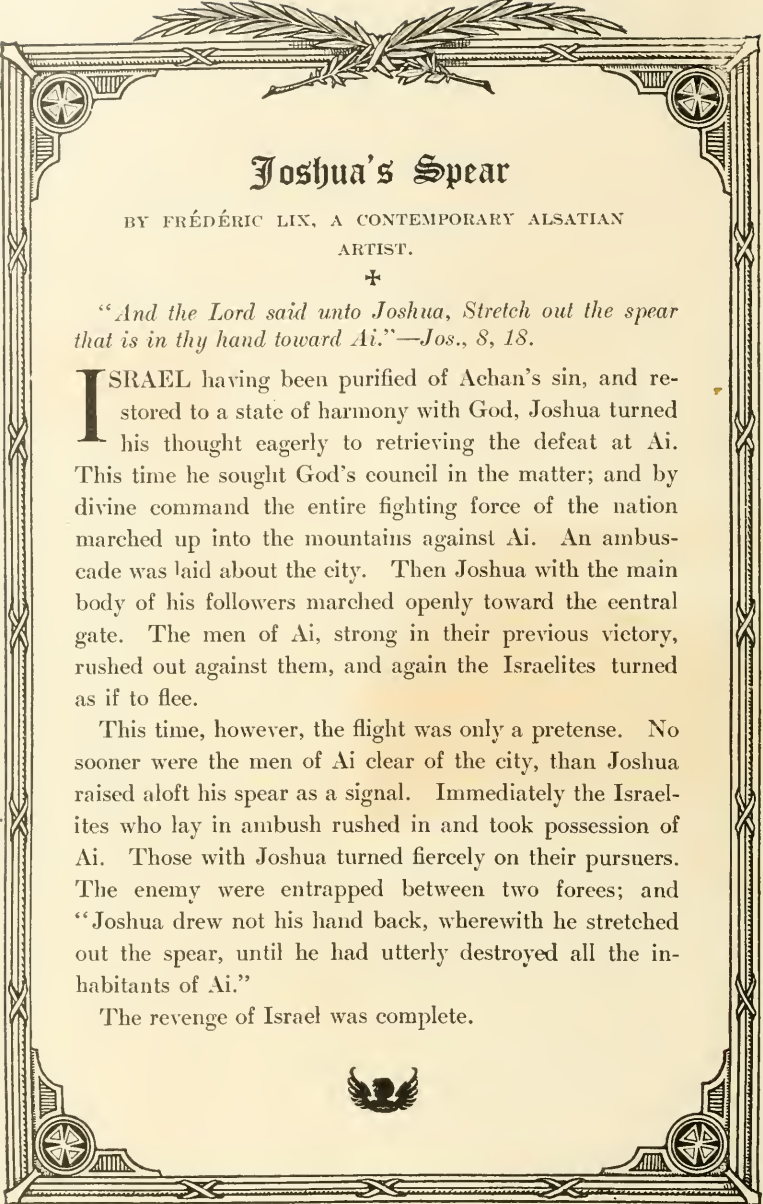
THINK what must have been the terror of Achan as he saw the fatal lot come narrowing down, ever nearer to him. He had plundered both gold and silver from Jericho, and especially he had seized upon a gorgeous "Babylonish garment" which had caught his barbaric eye. These treasures he had hidden in his tent, safely, as he thought. Yet now his secret was unsealed, his end was come.

He knew this and submitted quietly. Some shadow of his sin had apparently touched his family also; for Joshua commanded that all of these and all of Achan's possessions should be burned with fire. The doomed family were dragged to the near valley of Achor, which means "trouble." They were stoned to death and then burned.

"And they raised over him a great heap of stones unto this day. So the Lord turned from the fierceness of his anger: wherefore the name of that place was called The valley of Achor, unto this day."







Joshua's Spear

BY FRÉDÉRIC LIX, A CONTEMPORARY ALSATIAN
ARTIST.



"And the Lord said unto Joshua, Stretch out the spear that is in thy hand toward Ai."—Jos., 8, 18.

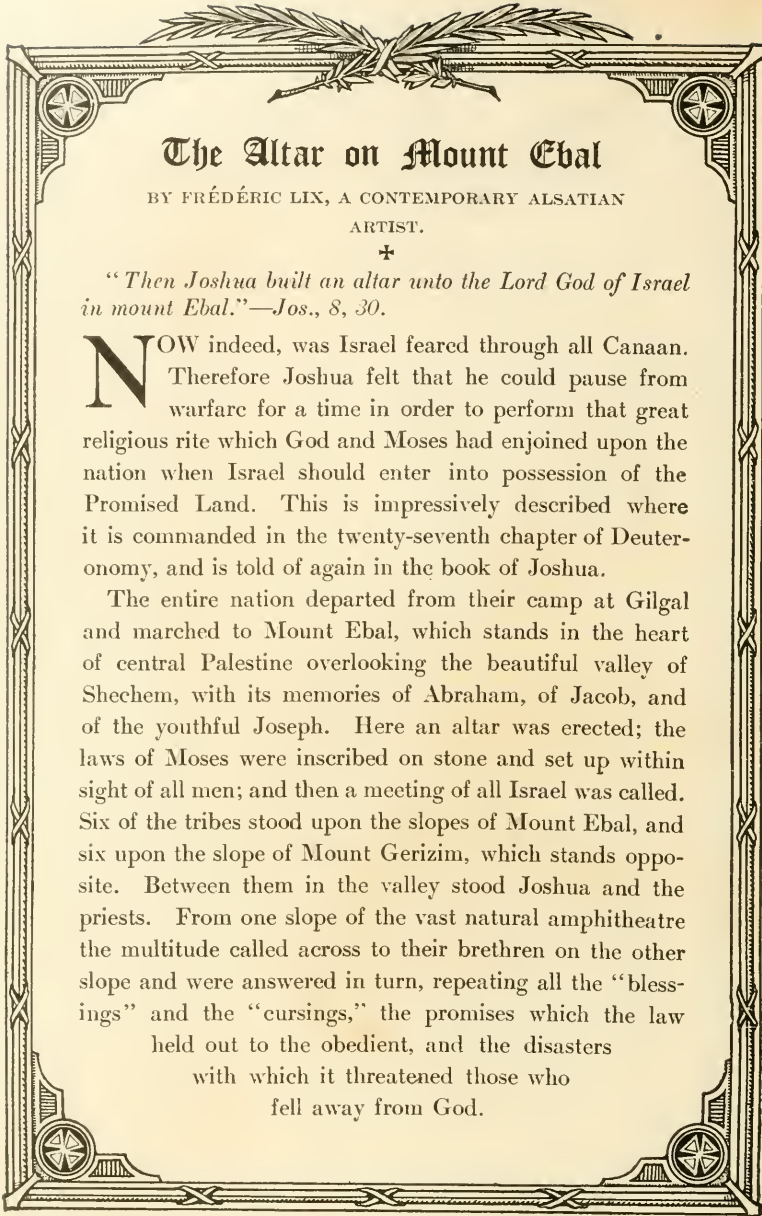
ISRAEL having been purified of Achan's sin, and restored to a state of harmony with God, Joshua turned his thought eagerly to retrieving the defeat at Ai. This time he sought God's council in the matter; and by divine command the entire fighting force of the nation marched up into the mountains against Ai. An ambuscade was laid about the city. Then Joshua with the main body of his followers marched openly toward the central gate. The men of Ai, strong in their previous victory, rushed out against them, and again the Israelites turned as if to flee.

This time, however, the flight was only a pretense. No sooner were the men of Ai clear of the city, than Joshua raised aloft his spear as a signal. Immediately the Israelites who lay in ambush rushed in and took possession of Ai. Those with Joshua turned fiercely on their pursuers. The enemy were entrapped between two forces; and "Joshua drew not his hand back, wherewith he stretched out the spear, until he had utterly destroyed all the inhabitants of Ai."

The revenge of Israel was complete.







The Altar on Mount Ebal

BY FRÉDÉRIC LIX, A CONTEMPORARY ALSATIAN
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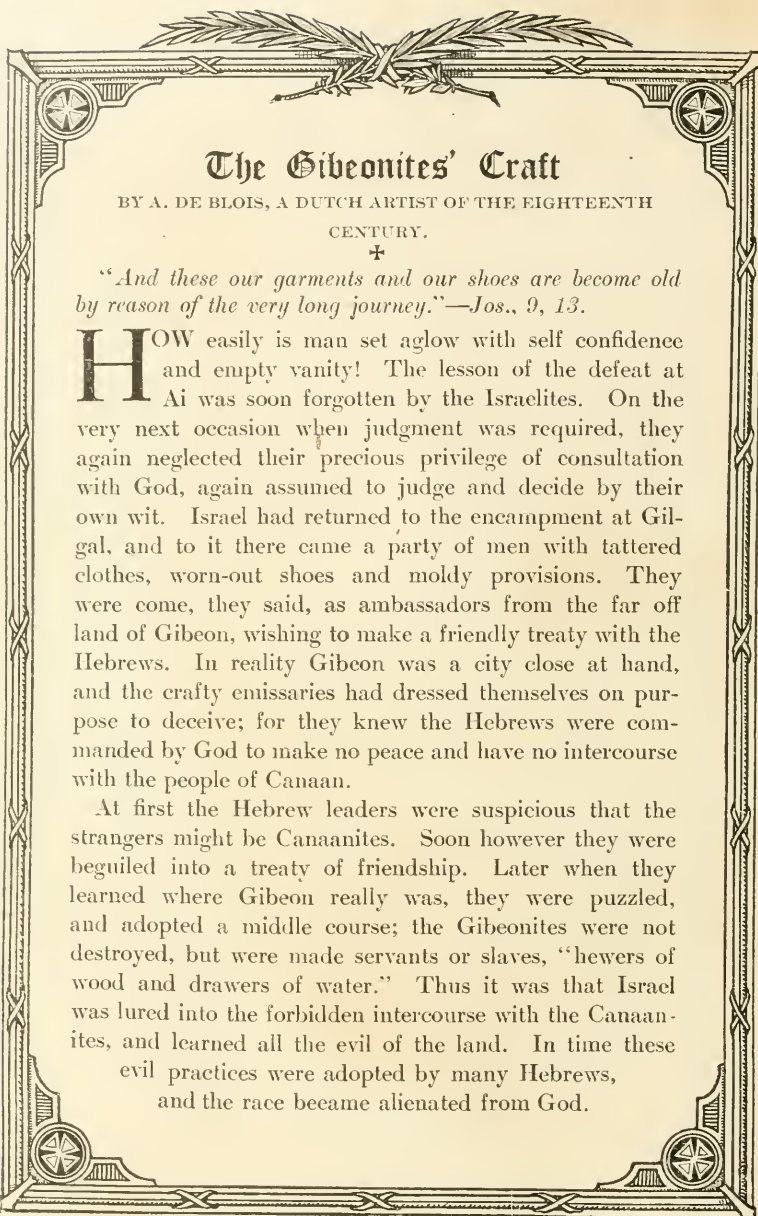
*"Then Joshua built an altar unto the Lord God of Israel
in mount Ebal."—Jos., 8, 30.*

NOW indeed, was Israel feared through all Canaan. Therefore Joshua felt that he could pause from warfare for a time in order to perform that great religious rite which God and Moses had enjoined upon the nation when Israel should enter into possession of the Promised Land. This is impressively described where it is commanded in the twenty-seventh chapter of Deuteronomy, and is told of again in the book of Joshua.

The entire nation departed from their camp at Gilgal and marched to Mount Ebal, which stands in the heart of central Palestine overlooking the beautiful valley of Shechem, with its memories of Abraham, of Jacob, and of the youthful Joseph. Here an altar was erected; the laws of Moses were inscribed on stone and set up within sight of all men; and then a meeting of all Israel was called. Six of the tribes stood upon the slopes of Mount Ebal, and six upon the slope of Mount Gerizim, which stands opposite. Between them in the valley stood Joshua and the priests. From one slope of the vast natural amphitheatre the multitude called across to their brethren on the other slope and were answered in turn, repeating all the "blessings" and the "cursings," the promises which the law held out to the obedient, and the disasters

with which it threatened those who
fell away from God.





The Gibeonites' Craft

BY A. DE BLOIS, A DUTCH ARTIST OF THE EIGHTEENTH
CENTURY.



"And these our garments and our shoes are become old by reason of the very long journey."—Jos., 9, 13.

HOW easily is man set aglow with self confidence and empty vanity! The lesson of the defeat at Ai was soon forgotten by the Israelites. On the very next occasion when judgment was required, they again neglected their precious privilege of consultation with God, again assumed to judge and decide by their own wit. Israel had returned to the encampment at Gilgal, and to it there came a party of men with tattered clothes, worn-out shoes and moldy provisions. They were come, they said, as ambassadors from the far off land of Gibeon, wishing to make a friendly treaty with the Hebrews. In reality Gibeon was a city close at hand, and the crafty emissaries had dressed themselves on purpose to deceive; for they knew the Hebrews were commanded by God to make no peace and have no intercourse with the people of Canaan.

At first the Hebrew leaders were suspicious that the strangers might be Canaanites. Soon however they were beguiled into a treaty of friendship. Later when they learned where Gibeon really was, they were puzzled, and adopted a middle course; the Gibeonites were not destroyed, but were made servants or slaves, "hewers of wood and drawers of water." Thus it was that Israel was lured into the forbidden intercourse with the Canaanites, and learned all the evil of the land. In time these evil practices were adopted by many Hebrews, and the race became alienated from God.





Flight of the Canaanites

FROM THE BIBLE SERIES BY GUSTAVE DORÉ.



"The Lord cast down great stones from heaven upon them unto Azekah, and they died."—Jos., 10, 11.

WHEN news of Israel's alliance with Gibeon spread through Canaan, there was new matter for anxiety in the land; for Gibeon was one of its greatest cities, and would furnish the invaders a secure stronghold and centre for their attacks. Immediate action was taken. All the chief city-kings of southern Palestine united their forces and marched against Gibeon, hoping to destroy it before Joshua could come to its aid.

The Gibeonites sent hurried word to their ally, and he at once set out with all his forces to the rescue. Gibeon stood high up among the mountains not far north of Jerusalem. From the valley camp at Gilgal this was a long hard night's journey for the Israelites; but they accomplished it successfully, heroically, and in the early dawning rushed upon their astonished enemies.

This was Joshua's greatest battle. The Canaanites fled and Israel pursued. The heavens also took part in the dread conflict; for as the Canaanites rushed away, a terrific storm of hail burst upon them, and beat them down. "They were more which died with hail-stones than they whom the children of Israel slew with the sword."





Joshua's Great Day

BY JOHN MARTIN, K. L. B., AN ENGLISH ARTIST NOTED
FOR THE VIGOR OF HIS BIBLICAL SCENES.



"Sun stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou Moon, in the valley of Ajalon."—Jos., 10, 12.

THAT day of victory at Gibeon has been called "Joshua's great day." On it he rose to his greatest height of glory and of confidence in God. As he stood upon the mountain heights and watched the terrified Canaanites flee away before him beaten and buffeted by the storm, he felt himself more than man, felt that the elements themselves were subject to him. He must have time, time and daylight sufficient utterly to destroy all these evil men of Canaan. So he looked up to God in heaven and made his celebrated outcry to the sun and moon to stand still and aid his vengeance. "And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed."

Many Bible students take this as a mere poetic figure, meaning that the day was long enough to complete the victory. Others read it as an actual lengthening of the terrestrial day, and there can be no question that the writer of the Book of Joshua so regarded it, and gloried in the miracle. He cries out in triumph "And there was no day like that before it or after it, that the Lord hearkened unto the voice of a man."

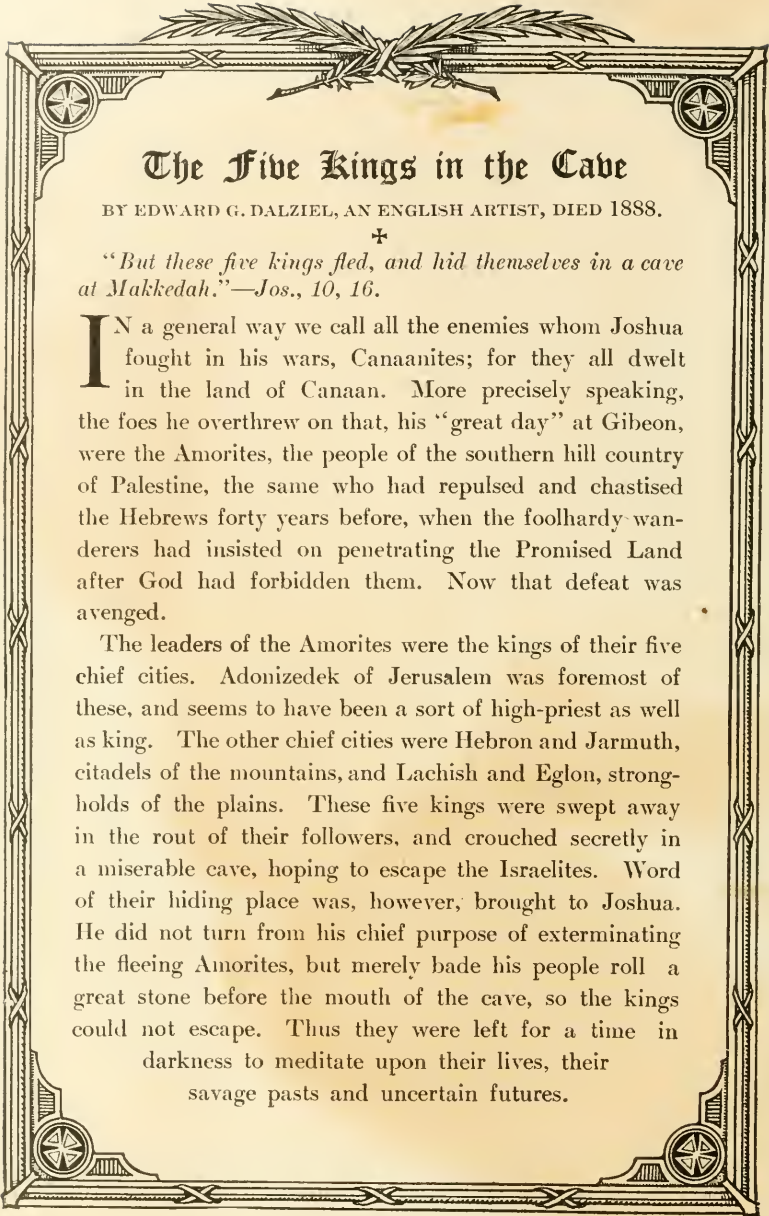




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The Five Kings in the Cave

BY EDWARD G. DALZIEL, AN ENGLISH ARTIST, DIED 1888.

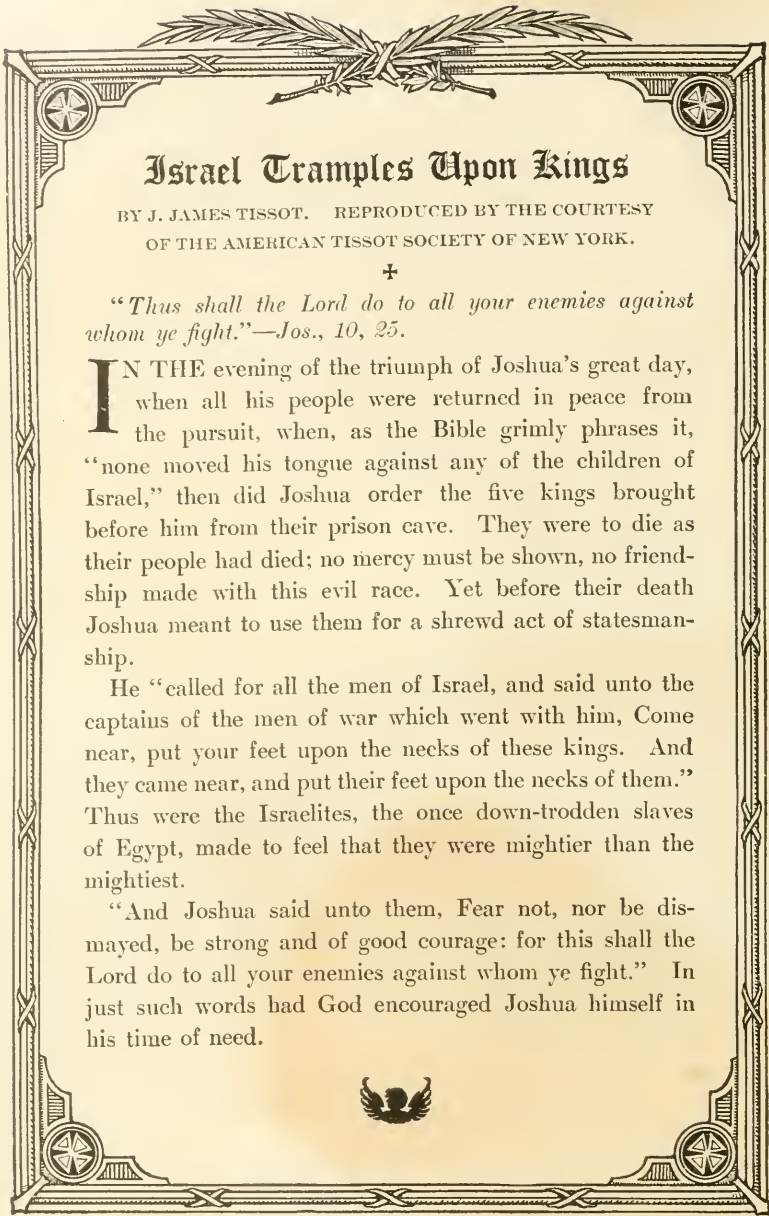


"But these five kings fled, and hid themselves in a cave at Makkedah."—*Jos.*, 10, 16.

IN a general way we call all the enemies whom Joshua fought in his wars, Canaanites; for they all dwelt in the land of Canaan. More precisely speaking, the foes he overthrew on that, his "great day" at Gibeon, were the Amorites, the people of the southern hill country of Palestine, the same who had repulsed and chastised the Hebrews forty years before, when the foolhardy wanderers had insisted on penetrating the Promised Land after God had forbidden them. Now that defeat was avenged.

The leaders of the Amorites were the kings of their five chief cities. Adonizedek of Jerusalem was foremost of these, and seems to have been a sort of high-priest as well as king. The other chief cities were Hebron and Jarmuth, citadels of the mountains, and Lachish and Eglon, strongholds of the plains. These five kings were swept away in the rout of their followers, and crouched secretly in a miserable cave, hoping to escape the Israelites. Word of their hiding place was, however, brought to Joshua. He did not turn from his chief purpose of exterminating the fleeing Amorites, but merely bade his people roll a great stone before the mouth of the cave, so the kings could not escape. Thus they were left for a time in darkness to meditate upon their lives, their savage pasts and uncertain futures.





Israel Tramples Upon Kings

BY J. JAMES TISSOT. REPRODUCED BY THE COURTESY
OF THE AMERICAN TISSOT SOCIETY OF NEW YORK.



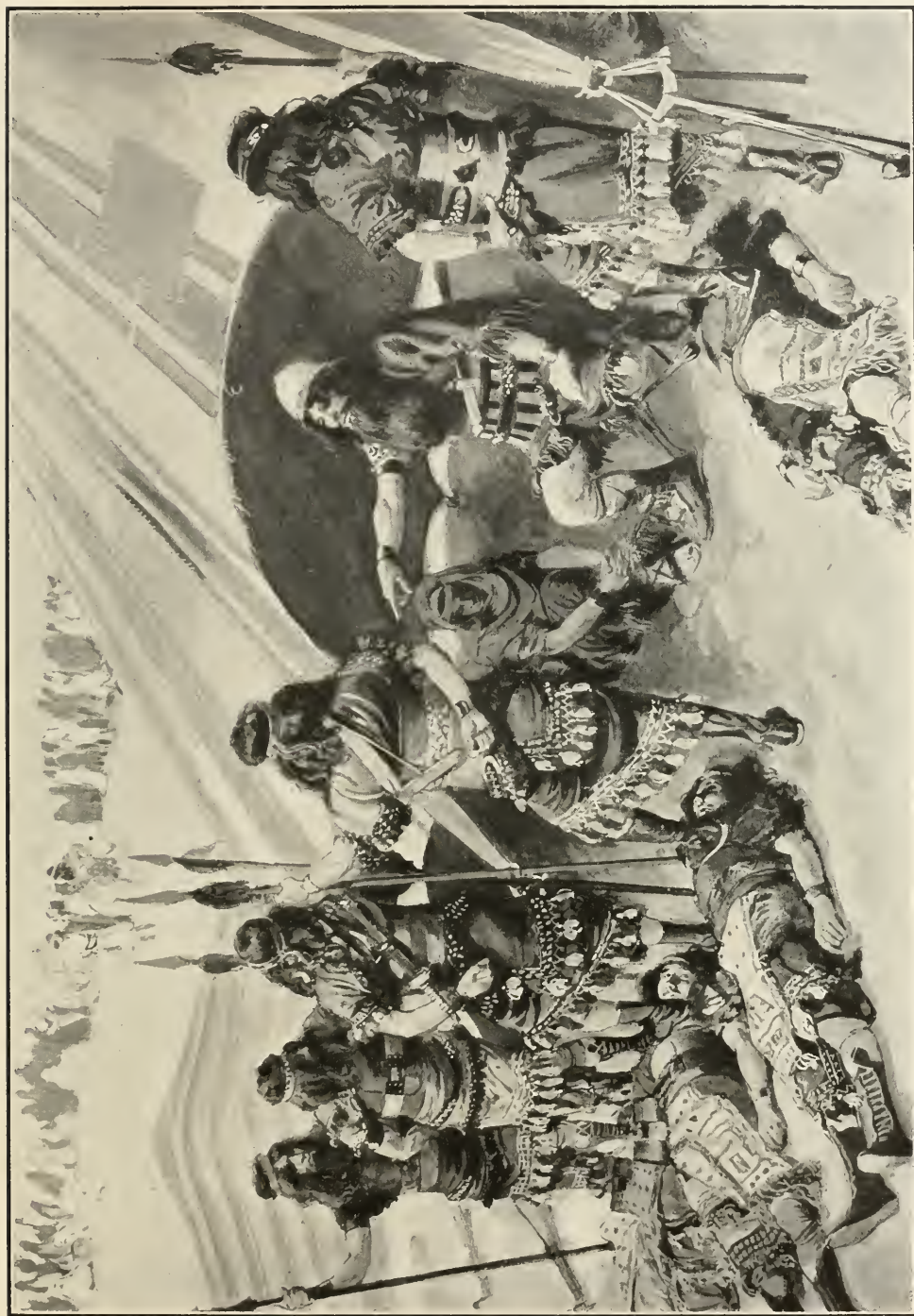
"Thus shall the Lord do to all your enemies against whom ye fight."—Jos., 10, 25.

IN THE evening of the triumph of Joshua's great day, when all his people were returned in peace from the pursuit, when, as the Bible grimly phrases it, "none moved his tongue against any of the children of Israel," then did Joshua order the five kings brought before him from their prison cave. They were to die as their people had died; no mercy must be shown, no friendship made with this evil race. Yet before their death Joshua meant to use them for a shrewd act of statesmanship.

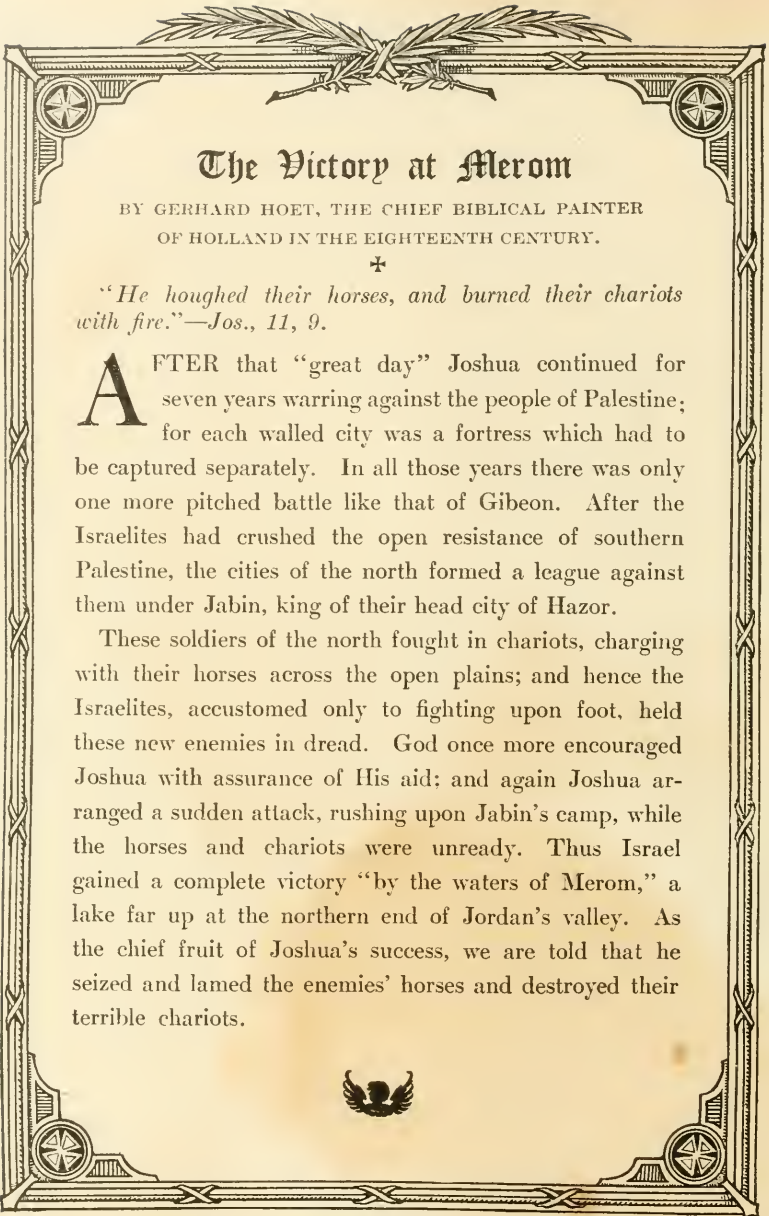
He "called for all the men of Israel, and said unto the captains of the men of war which went with him, Come near, put your feet upon the necks of these kings. And they came near, and put their feet upon the necks of them." Thus were the Israelites, the once down-trodden slaves of Egypt, made to feel that they were mightier than the mightiest.

"And Joshua said unto them, Fear not, nor be dismayed, be strong and of good courage: for this shall the Lord do to all your enemies against whom ye fight." In just such words had God encouraged Joshua himself in his time of need.





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The Victory at Merom

BY GERHARD HOET, THE CHIEF BIBLICAL PAINTER
OF HOLLAND IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.



*"He houghed their horses, and burned their chariots
with fire."—Jos., 11, 9.*

AFTER that "great day" Joshua continued for seven years warring against the people of Palestine; for each walled city was a fortress which had to be captured separately. In all those years there was only one more pitched battle like that of Gibeon. After the Israelites had crushed the open resistance of southern Palestine, the cities of the north formed a league against them under Jabin, king of their head city of Hazor.

These soldiers of the north fought in chariots, charging with their horses across the open plains; and hence the Israelites, accustomed only to fighting upon foot, held these new enemies in dread. God once more encouraged Joshua with assurance of His aid; and again Joshua arranged a sudden attack, rushing upon Jabin's camp, while the horses and chariots were unready. Thus Israel gained a complete victory "by the waters of Merom," a lake far up at the northern end of Jordan's valley. As the chief fruit of Joshua's success, we are told that he seized and lamed the enemies' horses and destroyed their terrible chariots.

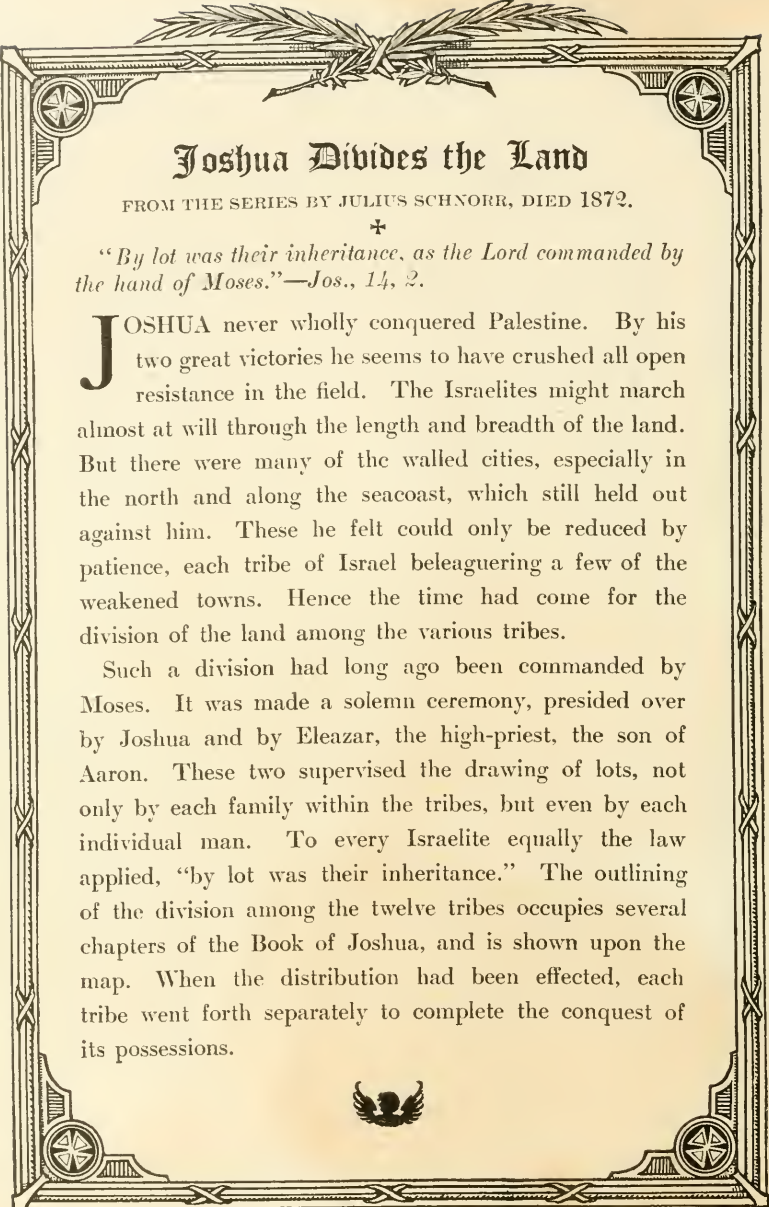




THE HISTORY OF THE

I. The first part of the history of the world, from the beginning of time to the present day, is divided into three periods. The first period is the period of the world's infancy, from the beginning of time to the birth of Christ. The second period is the period of the world's maturity, from the birth of Christ to the present day. The third period is the period of the world's decline, from the present day to the end of time.





Joshua Divides the Land

FROM THE SERIES BY JULIUS SCHNORR, DIED 1872.



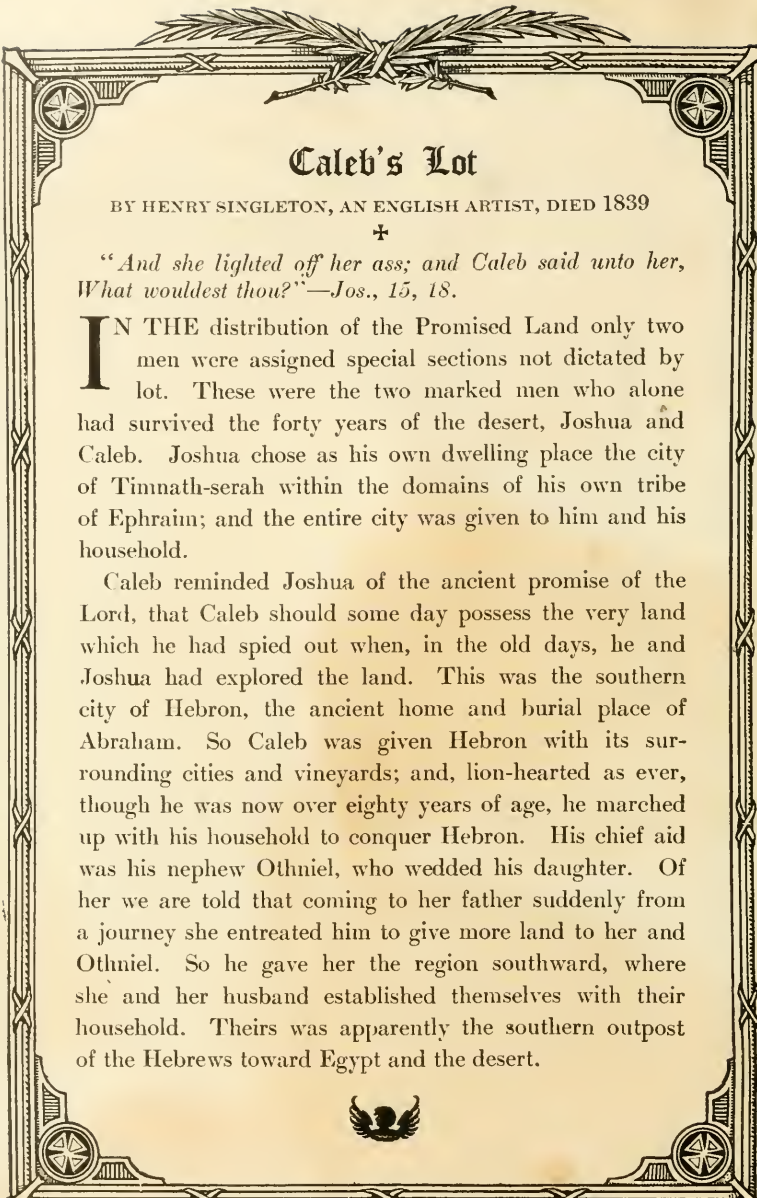
"By lot was their inheritance, as the Lord commanded by the hand of Moses."—Jos., 14, 2.

JOSHUA never wholly conquered Palestine. By his two great victories he seems to have crushed all open resistance in the field. The Israelites might march almost at will through the length and breadth of the land. But there were many of the walled cities, especially in the north and along the seacoast, which still held out against him. These he felt could only be reduced by patience, each tribe of Israel beleaguering a few of the weakened towns. Hence the time had come for the division of the land among the various tribes.

Such a division had long ago been commanded by Moses. It was made a solemn ceremony, presided over by Joshua and by Eleazar, the high-priest, the son of Aaron. These two supervised the drawing of lots, not only by each family within the tribes, but even by each individual man. To every Israelite equally the law applied, "by lot was their inheritance." The outlining of the division among the twelve tribes occupies several chapters of the Book of Joshua, and is shown upon the map. When the distribution had been effected, each tribe went forth separately to complete the conquest of its possessions.







Caleb's Lot

BY HENRY SINGLETON, AN ENGLISH ARTIST, DIED 1839



"And she lighted off her ass; and Caleb said unto her, What wouldest thou?"—Jos., 15, 18.

IN THE distribution of the Promised Land only two men were assigned special sections not dictated by lot. These were the two marked men who alone had survived the forty years of the desert, Joshua and Caleb. Joshua chose as his own dwelling place the city of Timnath-serah within the domains of his own tribe of Ephraim; and the entire city was given to him and his household.

Caleb reminded Joshua of the ancient promise of the Lord, that Caleb should some day possess the very land which he had spied out when, in the old days, he and Joshua had explored the land. This was the southern city of Hebron, the ancient home and burial place of Abraham. So Caleb was given Hebron with its surrounding cities and vineyards; and, lion-hearted as ever, though he was now over eighty years of age, he marched up with his household to conquer Hebron. His chief aid was his nephew Othniel, who wedded his daughter. Of her we are told that coming to her father suddenly from a journey she entreated him to give more land to her and Othniel. So he gave her the region southward, where she and her husband established themselves with their household. Theirs was apparently the southern outpost of the Hebrews toward Egypt and the desert.





14 And all the spoil of these cities, and the cattle, the children of Israel took for a prey unto themselves; but every man they smote with the edge of the sword, until they had destroyed them, neither left they any to breathe.

15 ¶ As the LORD commanded Moses his servant, so did Moses command Joshua, and so did Joshua; he left nothing undone of all that the LORD commanded Moses.

16 So Joshua took all that land, the hills, and all the south country, and all the land of Goshen, and the valley, and the plain, and the mountain of Israel, and the valley of the same;

17 *Even* from the mount Halak, that goeth up to Seir, even unto Baal-gad in the valley of Lebanon under mount Hermon: and all their kings he took, and smote them, and slew them.

18 Joshua made war a long time with all those kings.

19 There was not a city that made peace with the children of Israel, save the Hivites, the inhabitants of Gibeon: all *other* they took in battle.

20 For it was of the LORD to harden their hearts, that they should come against Israel in battle, that he might destroy them utterly, *and* that they might have no favour, but that he might destroy them, as the LORD commanded Moses.

21 ¶ And at that time came Joshua, and cut off the Anakims from the mountains, from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, and from all the mountains of Judah, and from all the mountains of Israel: Joshua destroyed them utterly with their cities.

22 There was none of the Anakims left in the land of the children of Israel: only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod, there remained.

23 So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD said unto Moses; and Joshua gave it for an inheritance unto Israel, according to their divisions by their tribes. And the land rested from war.¹

Chapter 12

¹ The two kings whose countries Moses took and disposed of. ⁷ The one and thirty kings on the other side Jordan which Joshua smote.

NOW these *are* the kings of the land, which the children of Israel smote, and possessed their land on the other side Jordan, toward the rising of the sun; from the river Arnon unto mount Hermon, and all the plain on the east:

2 Sihon king of the Amorites, who dwelt in Heshbon, *and* ruled from Aroer, which *is* upon the bank of the river Arnon, and from the middle of the river, and from half Gilead, even unto the river Jabbok, *which is* the border of the children of Ammon;

3 And from the plain to the sea of Chinneroth on the east, and

¹From other biblical passages it can be figured out that Joshua's wars probably lasted six or seven years.

unto the sea of the plain, *even* the salt sea on the east, the way to Beth-jeshimoth; and from the south, under Ashdoth-pisgah:

4 ¶ And the coast of Og king of Bashan, *which* was of the remnant of the giants, that dwelt at Ashtaroth and at Edrei,

5 And reigned in mount Hermon, and in Salcah, and in all Bashan, unto the border of the Geshurites, and the Maachathites, and half Gilead, the border of Sihon king of Heshbon.

6 Them did Moses the servant of the LORD and the children of Israel smite: and Moses the servant of the LORD gave it *for* a possession unto the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh.

7 ¶ And these *are* the kings of the country which Joshua and the children of Israel smote on this side Jordan on the west, from Baalgad in the valley of Lebanon even unto the mount Halak, that goeth up to Seir; which Joshua gave unto the tribes of Israel *for* a possession according to their divisions;

8 In the mountains, and in the valleys, and in the plains, and in the springs, and in the wilderness, and in the south country: the Hittites, the Amorites, and the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites:

9 ¶ The king of Jericho, one; the king of Ai, *which is* beside Bethel, one;

10 The king of Jerusalem, one; the king of Hebron, one;

11 The king of Jarmuth, one; the king of Lachish, one;

12 The king of Eglon, one; the king of Gezer, one;

13 The king of Debir, one; the king of Geder, one;

14 The king of Hormah, one; the king of Arad, one;

15 The king of Libnah, one; the king of Adullam, one;

16 The king of Makkedah, one; the king of Beth-el, one;

17 The king of Tappuah, one; the king of Hepher, one;

18 The king of Aphek, one; the king of Lasharon, one;

19 The king of Madon, one; the king of Hazor, one;

20 The king of Shimron-meron, one; the king of Achshaph, one;

21 The king of Taanach, one; the king of Megiddo, one;

22 The king of Kedesh, one; the king of Jokneam of Carmel, one;

23 The king of Dor in the coast of Dor, one; the king of the nations of Gilgal, one;

24 The king of Tirzah, one: all the kings thirty and one.

Chapter 13

1 The bounds of the land not yet conquered. 8 The inheritance of the two tribes and half. 14, 33 The Lord and his sacrifices are the inheritance of Levi. 15 The bounds of the inheritance of Reuben. 22 Balaam slain. 24 The bounds of the inheritance of Gad, 29 and of the half tribe of Manasseh.



OW Joshua was old *and* stricken in years; and the LORD said unto him, Thou art old *and* stricken in years, and there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed.

2 This *is* the land that yet remaineth: all the borders of the Philistines, and all Geshuri,

3 From Sihor, which *is* before Egypt, even unto the borders of Ekron northward, *which* is counted to the Canaanite: five lords of the Philistines; the Gazathites, and the Ashdolithes, the Eshkalonites, the Gittites, and the Ekronites; also the Avites:

4 From the south, all the land of the Canaanites, and Mearah that *is* beside the Sidonians, unto Aphek, to the borders of the Amorites:

5 And the land of the Giblites, and all Lebanon, toward the sun-rising, from Baal-gad under mount Hermon unto the entering into Hamath.

6 All the inhabitants of the hill-country from Lebanon unto Misrephoth-maim, *and* all the Sidonians, them will I drive out from before the children of Israel: only divide thou it by lot unto the Israelites for an inheritance, as I have commanded thee.

7 Now therefore divide this land for an inheritance unto the nine tribes, and the half tribe of Manasseh,

8 With whom the Reubenites and the Gadites have received their inheritance, which Moses gave them, beyond Jordan eastward, *even* as Moses the servant of the LORD gave them;

9 From Aroer, that *is* upon the bank of the river Arnon, and the city that *is* in the midst of the river, and all the plain of Medeba unto Dibon;

10 And all the cities of Sihon king of the Amorites, which reigned in Heshbon, unto the border of the children of Ammon;

11 And Gilead, and the border of the Geshurites and Maachathites, and all mount Hermon, and all Bashan unto Salcah;

12 All the kingdom of Og in Bashan, which reigned in Ashtaroth and in Edrei, who remained of the remnant of the giants: for these did Moses smite, and cast them out.

13 Nevertheless the children of Israel expelled not the Geshurites, nor the Maachathites: but the Geshurites and the Maachathites dwell among the Israelites until this day.

14 Only unto the tribe of Levi he gave none inheritance; the sacrifices of the LORD God of Israel made by fire *are* their inheritance, as he said unto them.

15 ¶ And Moses gave unto the tribe of the children of Reuben *inheritance* according to their families.

16 And their coast was from Aroer, that *is* on the bank of the river Arnon, and the city that *is* in the midst of the river, and all the plain by Medeba;

17 Heshbon, and all her cities that *are* in the plain; Dibon, and Bamoth-baal, and Beth-baal-meon,

18 And Jahaza, and Kedemoth, and Mephaath,

19 And Kirjathaim, and Sibmah, and Zareth-shahar in the mount of the valley,

20 And Beth-peor, and Ashdodh-pisgah, and Beth-jeshimoth,

21 And all the cities of the plain, and all the kingdom of Sihon king of the Amorites, which reigned in Heshbon, whom Moses smote with the princes of Midian, Evi, and Rekem, and Zur, and Hur, and Reba, *which were* dukes of Sihon, dwelling in the country.

22 ¶ Balaam also the son of Beor, the soothsayer, did the children of Israel slay with the sword among them that were slain by them.

23 And the border of the children of Reuben was Jordan, and the border *thereof*. This *was* the inheritance of the children of Reuben after their families, the cities and the villages thereof.

24 And Moses gave *inheritance* unto the tribe of Gad, *even* unto the children of Gad according to their families.

25 And their coast was Jazer, and all the cities of Gilead, and half the land of the children of Ammon, unto Aroer that *is* before Rabbah:

26 And from Heshbon unto Ramath-mizpeh, and Betonim; and from Mahanaim unto the border of Debir;

27 And in the valley, Beth-aram, and Beth-nimrah, and Succoth, and Zaphon, the rest of the kingdom of Sihon king of Heshbon, Jordan and *his* border, *even* unto the edge of the sea of Chinnereth on the other side Jordan eastward.

28 This *is* the inheritance of the children of Gad after their families, the cities, and their villages.

29 ¶ And Moses gave *inheritance* unto the half tribe of Manasseh: and *this was the possession* of the half tribe of the children of Manasseh by their families.

30 And their coast was from Mahanaim, all Bashan, all the kingdom of Og king of Bashan, and all the towns of Jair, which *are* in Bashan, threescore cities:

31 And half Gilead, and Ashtaroth, and Edrei, cities of the kingdom of Og in Bashan, *were pertaining* unto the children of Machir the son of Manasseh, *even* to the one-half of the children of Machir by their families.

32 These *are the countries* which Moses did distribute for inheritance in the plains of Moab, on the other side Jordan, by Jericho, eastward.

33 But unto the tribe of Levi Moses gave not *any* inheritance: the LORD God of Israel *was* their inheritance, as he said unto them.

Chapter 14

1 The nine tribes and a half are to have their inheritance by lot. 6 Caleb by privilege obtaineth Hebron.



AND these *are the countries* which the children of Israel inherited in the land of Canaan, which Eleazar the priest, and Joshua the son of Nun, and the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel, distributed for inheritance to them.

2 By lot *was* their inheritance, as the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses, for the nine tribes, and *for* the half tribe.

3 For Moses had given the inheritance of two tribes and an half tribe on the other side Jordan: but unto the Levites he gave none inheritance among them.

4 For the children of Joseph were two tribes, Manasseh and Ephraim: therefore they gave no part unto the Levites in the land, save cities to dwell *in*, with their suburbs for their cattle and for their substance.

5 As the LORD commanded Moses, so the children of Israel did, and they divided the land.

6 ¶ Then the children of Judah came unto Joshua in Gilgal: and Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite said unto him, Thou knowest the thing that the LORD said unto Moses the man of God concerning me and thee in Kadesh-barnea.

7 Forty years old *was* I when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadesh-barnea to espy out the land; and I brought him word again as *it was* in mine heart.

8 Nevertheless my brethren that went up with me made the heart of the people melt: but I wholly followed the LORD my God.

9 And Moses swore on that day, saying, Surely the land whereon thy feet have trodden shall be thine inheritance, and thy children's for ever, because thou hast wholly followed the LORD my God.

10 And now, behold, the LORD hath kept me alive, as he said, these forty and five years, even since the LORD spake this word unto Moses, while *the children of* Israel wandered in the wilderness: and now, lo, I *am* this day fourscore and five years old.

11 As yet I *am as* strong this day as *I was* in the day that Moses sent me: as my strength *was* then, even so *is* my strength now, for war, both to go out, and to come in.

12 Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the LORD spake in that day; for thou heardest in that day how the Anakims *were* there, and *that* the cities *were* great and fenced: if so be the LORD *will be* with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the LORD said.

13 And Joshua blessed him, and gave unto Caleb the son of Jephunneh Hebron for an inheritance.

14 Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite unto this day, because that he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel.

15 And the name of Hebron before *was* Kirjath-arba; *which Arba was* a great man among the Anakims. And the land had rest from war.

Chapter 15

¹ The borders of the lot of Judah. ¹³ Caleb's portion and conquest. ¹⁶ Othniel, for his valor, hath Achsah, Caleb's daughter, to wife. ¹⁸ She obtaineth a blessing of her father. ²¹ The cities of Judah. ⁶³ The Jebusites not conquered.



HIS then was the lot of the tribe of the children of Judah by their families; *even* to the border of Edom the wilderness of Zin southward *was* the uttermost part of the south coast.

2 And their south border was from the shore of the salt sea, from the bay that looketh southward:

3 And it went out to the south side to Maaleh-acrabbim, and passed along to Zin, and ascended up on the south side unto Kadesh-barnea, and passed along to Hezron, and went up to Adar, and fetched a compass to Karkaa:

4 *From thence* it passed toward Azmon, and went out unto the river of Egypt; and the goings out of that coast were at the sea: this shall be your south coast.

5 And the east border *was* the salt sea, *even* unto the end of Jordan. And *their* border in the north quarter *was* from the bay of the sea at the uttermost part of Jordan:

6 And the border went up to Beth-hogla, and passed along by the north of Beth-arabah; and the border went up to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben:

7 And the border went up toward Debir from the valley of Achor, and so northward, looking toward Gilgal, that *is* before the going up to Adummim, which *is* on the south side of the river: and the border passed toward the waters of En-shemesh, and the goings out thereof were at En-rogel:

8 And the border went up by the valley of the son of Hinnom unto the south side of the Jebusite: the same *is* Jerusalem: and the border went up to the top of the mountain that *lieth* before the valley of Hinnom westward, which *is* at the end of the valley of the giants northward:

9 And the border was drawn from the top of the hill unto the fountain of the water of Nephtoah, and went out to the cities of mount Ephron; and the border was drawn to Baalah, which *is* Kirjath-jearim:

10 And the border compassed from Baalah westward unto mount Seir, and passed along unto the side of mount Jearim, which *is* Chesalon, on the north side, and went down to Beth-shemesh, and passed on to Timnah:

11 And the border went out unto the side of Ekron northward: and the border was drawn to Shicron, and passed along to mount Baalah, and went out unto Jabneel; and the goings out of the border were at the sea.

12 And the west border *was* to the great sea, and the coast *thereof*.

This *is* the coast of the children of Judah round about according to their families.

13 ¶ And unto Caleb the son of Jephunneh he gave a part among the children of Judah, according to the commandment of the LORD to Joshua, *even* the city of Arba the father of Anak, which *city* is Hebron.

14 And Caleb drove thence the three sons of Anak, Sheshai, and Ahiman, and Talmi, the children of Anak.

15 And he went up thence to the inhabitants of Debir: and the name of Debir before *was* Kirjath-sepher.

16 ¶ And Caleb said, He that smiteth Kirjath-sepher, and taketh it, to him will I give Achsah my daughter to wife.

17 And Othniel the son of Kenaz, the brother of Caleb, took it: and he gave him Achsah his daughter to wife.

18 And it came to pass, as she came *unto him*, that she moved him to ask of her father a field: and she lighted off *her* ass; and Caleb said unto her, What wouldest thou?

19 Who answered, Give me a blessing; for thou hast given me a south land; give me also springs of water. And he gave her the upper springs, and the nether springs.

20 This *is* the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Judah according to their families.

21 And the uttermost cities of the tribe of the children of Judah toward the coast of Edom southward were Kabzeel, and Eder, and Jagur.

22 And Kinah, and Dimonah, and Adadah,

23 And Kedesh, and Hazor, and Ithnan,

24 Ziph, and Telem, and Bealoth,

25 And Hazor, Hadattah, and Kerioth, *and* Hezron, which *is* Hazor,

26 Amam, and Shema, and Moladah,

27 And Hazar-gaddah, and Heshmon, and Beth-palet,

28 And Hazar-shual, and Beer-sheba, and Bizjothjah,

29 Baalah, and Iim, and Azem,

30 And Eltolad, and Chesil, and Hormah,

31 And Ziklag, and Madmannah, and Sansannah,

32 And Lebaoth, and Shilhim, and Ain, and Rimmon: *all* the cities *are* twenty and nine, with their villages;

33 *And* in the valley, Eshtaol, and Zoreah, and Ashnah,

34 And Zanoah, and En-gannim, Tappuah, and Enam,

35 Jarmuth, and Adullam, Socoh, and Azekah,

36 And Sharaim, and Adithaim, and Gederah, and Gederothaim; fourteen cities with their villages:

37 Zenan, and Hadashah, and Migdal-gad,

38 And Dilean, and Mizpeh, and Joktheel,

- 39 Lachish, and Bozkath, and Eglon,
 40 And Cabbon, and Lahmam, and Kithlish,
 41 And Gederoth, Beth-dagon, and Naamah, and Makkedah;
 sixteen cities with their villages:
 42 Libnah, and Ether, and Ashan,
 43 And Jiphtah, and Ashnah, and Nezib,
 44 And Keilah, and Achzib, and Mareshah; nine cities with their
 villages:
 45 Ekron, with her towns and her villages:
 46 From Ekron even unto the sea, all that *lay* near Ashdod, with
 their villages:
 47 Ashdod with her towns and her villages, Gaza with her towns
 and her villages, unto the river of Egypt, and the great sea, and the
 border *thereof*:
 48 ¶ And in the mountains, Shamir, and Jattir, and Socoh,
 49 And Dannah, and Kirjath-sannah, which *is* Debir,
 50 And Anab, and Eshtemoth, and Anim,
 51 And Goshen, and Holon, and Giloh; eleven cities with their
 villages:
 52 Arab, and Dumah, and Eshean,
 53 And Janum, and Beth-tappuah, and Aphekah,
 54 And Humtah, and Kirjath-arba, which *is* Hebron, and Zior;
 nine cities with their villages:
 55 Maon, Carmel, and Ziph, and Juttah,
 56 And Jezreel, and Jokdeam, and Zanoah,
 57 Cain, Gibeah, and Timnah; ten cities with their villages:
 58 Halhul, Beth-zur, and Gedor,
 59 And Maarath, and Beth-anoth, and Eltekon; six cities with
 their villages:
 60 Kirjath-baal, which *is* Kirjath-jearim, and Rabbah; two cities
 with their villages:
 61 In the wilderness, Beth-arabah, Middin, and Secacah,
 62 And Nibshan, and the city of Salt, and En-gedi; six cities with
 their villages.
 63 ¶ As for the Jebusites the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the chil-
 dren of Judah could not drive them out: but the Jebusites dwell with
 the children of Judah at Jerusalem unto this day.

Chapter 16

¹ The general borders of the sons of Joseph. ⁵ The border of the inheritance of Ephraim. ¹⁰ The Canaanites not conquered.



AND the lot of the children of Joseph fell from Jordan by
 Jericho, unto the water of Jericho on the east, to the wilder-
 ness that goeth up from Jericho throughout mount Beth-el,
² And goeth out from Beth-el to Luz, and passeth along unto the
 borders of Archi to Ataroth,

3 And goeth down westward to the coast of Japhleti, unto the coast of Beth-horon the nether, and to Gezer: and the goings out thereof are at the sea.

4 So the children of Joseph, Manasseh and Ephraim, took their inheritance.

5 ¶ And the border of the children of Ephraim according to their families was *thus*: even the border of their inheritance on the east side was Ataroth-addar, unto Beth-horon the upper;

6 And the border went out toward the sea to Michmethah on the north side; and the border went about eastward unto Taanath-shiloh, and passed by it on the east to Janohah;

7 And it went down from Janohah to Ataroth, and to Naarath, and came to Jericho, and went out at Jordan.

8 The border went out from Tappuah westward unto the river Kanah; and the goings out thereof were at the sea. *This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Ephraim by their families.*

9 And the separate cities for the children of Ephraim *were* among the inheritance of the children of Manasseh, all the cities with their villages.

10 And they drave not out the Canaanites that dwelt in Gezer: but the Canaanites dwell among the Ephraimites unto this day, and serve under tribute.

Chapter 17

1 The lot of Manasseh. 7 His Coast. 12 The Canaanites not driven out. 14 The children of Joseph obtain another lot.

 HERE was also a lot for the tribe of Manasseh; for he *was* the firstborn of Joseph; to *wit*, for Machir the firstborn of Manasseh, the father of Gilead: because he was a man of war, therefore he had Gilead and Bashan.

2 There was also *a lot* for the rest of the children of Manasseh by their families; for the children of Abiezer, and for the children of Helek, and for the children of Asriel, and for the children of Shechem, and for the children of Hephher, and for the children of Shemida: these *were* the male children of Manasseh the son of Joseph by their families.

3 ¶ But Zelophehad, the son of Hephher, the son of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh, had no sons, but daughters: and these *are* the names of his daughters, Mahlah, and Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah.

4 And they came near before Eleazar the priest, and before Joshua the son of Nun, and before the princes, saying, The LORD commanded Moses to give us an inheritance among our brethren. Therefore according to the commandment of the LORD he gave them an inheritance among the brethren of their father.

5 And there fell ten portions to Manasseh, beside the land of Gilead and Bashan, which *were* on the other side Jordan;

6 Because the daughters of Manasseh had an inheritance among his sons: and the rest of Manasseh's sons had the land of Gilead.

7 ¶ And the coast of Manasseh was from Asher to Michmethah, that *lieth* before Shechem; and the border went along on the right hand unto the inhabitants of En-tappuah.

8 Now Manasseh had the land of Tappuah: but Tappuah on the border of Manasseh *belonged* to the children of Ephraim;

9 And the coast descended unto the river Kanah, southward of the river: these cities of Ephraim *are* among the cities of Manasseh: the coast of Manasseh also *was* on the north side of the river, and the outgoings of it were at the sea:

10 Southward *it was* Ephraim's, and northward *it was* Manasseh's, and the sea is his border; and they met together in Asher on the north, and in Issachar on the east.

11 And Manasseh had in Issachar and in Asher Beth-shean and her towns, and Ibleam and her towns, and the inhabitants of Dor and her towns, and the inhabitants of Endor and her towns, and the inhabitants of Taanach and her towns, and the inhabitants of Megiddo and her towns, *even* three countries.

12 Yet the children of Manasseh could not drive out *the inhabitants* of those cities; but the Canaanites would dwell in that land.

13 Yet it came to pass, when the children of Israel were waxen strong, that they put the Canaanites to tribute; but did not utterly drive them out.

14 And the children of Joseph spake unto Joshua, saying, Why hast thou given me *but* one lot and one portion to inherit, seeing I *am* a great people, forasmuch as the LORD hath blessed me hitherto?

15 And Joshua answered them, If thou *be* a great people, *then* get thee up to the wood *country*, and cut down for thyself there in the land of the Perizzites and of the gaints, if mount Ephraim be too narrow for thee.

16 And the children of Joseph said, The hill is not enough for us: and all the Canaanites that dwell in the land of the valley have chariots of iron, *both they* who *are* of Beth-shean and her towns, and *they* who *are* of the valley of Jezreel.

17 And Joshua spake unto the house of Joseph, *even* to Ephraim and to Manasseh, saying, Thou *art* a great people, and hast great power: thou shalt not have one lot *only*:

18 But the mountain shall be thine; for it *is* a wood, and thou shalt cut it down: and the outgoings of it shall be thine: for thou shalt drive out the Canaanites, though they have iron chariots, *and* though they *be* strong.

Chapter 18

1 *The tabernacle is set up at Shiloh.* 2 *The remainder of the land is described, and divided into seven parts.*
 10 *Joshua divideth it by lot.* 11 *The lot and border of Benjamin.* 21 *Their cities.*

AND the whole congregation of the children of Israel assembled together at Shiloh, and set up the tabernacle of the congregation there. And the land was subdued before them.

2 And there remained among the children of Israel seven tribes, which had not yet received their inheritance.

3 And Joshua said unto the children of Israel, How long *are ye* slack to go to possess the land, which the LORD God of your fathers hath given you?

4 Give out from among you three men for *each* tribe: and I will send them, and they shall rise, and go through the land, and describe it according to the inheritance of them; and they shall come *again* to me.

5 And they shall divide it into seven parts: Judah shall abide in their coast on the south, and the house of Joseph shall abide in their coasts on the north.

6 Ye shall therefore describe the land *into* seven parts, and bring *the description* hither to me, that I may cast lots for you here before the LORD our God.

7 But the Levites have no part among you; for the priesthood of the LORD *is* their inheritance: and Gad, and Reuben, and half the tribe of Manasseh, have received their inheritance beyond Jordan on the east, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave them.

8 ¶ And the men arose, and went away: and Joshua charged them that went to describe the land, saying, Go and walk through the land, and describe it, and come again to me, that I may here cast lots for you before the LORD in Shiloh.

9 And the men went and passed through the land, and described it by cities into seven parts in a book, and came *again* to Joshua to the host at Shiloh.

10 ¶ And Joshua cast lots for them in Shiloh before the LORD: and there Joshua divided the land unto the children of Israel according to their divisions.

11 ¶ And the lot of the tribe of the children of Benjamin came up according to their families: and the coast of their lot came forth between the children of Judah and the children of Joseph.

12 And their border on the north side was from Jordan: and the border went up to the side of Jericho on the north side, and went up through the mountains westward; and the goings out thereof were at the wilderness of Beth-aven.

13 And the border went over from thence toward Luz, to the side of Luz, which *is* Beth-el, southward; and the border descended to Ataroth-adar, near the hill that *lieth* on the south side of the nether Beth-horon.

14 And the border was drawn *thence*, and compassed the corner of the sea southward, from the hill that *lieth* before Beth-horon southward: and the goings out thereof were at Kirjath-baal, which *is* Kirjath-jearim, a city of the children of Judah: this *was* the west quarter.

15 And the south quarter *was* from the end of Kirjath-jearim, and the border went out on the west, and went out to the well of waters of Nephtoah:

16 And the border came down to the end of the mountain that *lieth* before the valley of the son of Hinnom, *and* which *is* in the valley of the giants on the north, and descended to the valley of Hinnom, to the side of Jebusi on the south, and descended to En-rogel,

17 And was drawn from the north, and went forth to En-shemesh, and went forth toward Geliloth, which *is* over against the going up of Adummim, and descended to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben,

18 And passed along toward the side over against Arabah northward, and went down unto Arabah:

19 And the border passed along to the side of Beth-hoglah northward: and the outgoings of the border were at the north bay of the salt sea at the south end of Jordan: this *was* the south coast.

20 And Jordan was the border of it on the east side. This *was* the inheritance of the children of Benjamin, by the coasts thereof round about, according to their families.

21 Now the cities of the tribe of the children of Benjamin according to their families were Jericho, and Beth-hoglah, and the valley of Keziz,

22 And Beth-arabah, and Zemaraim, and Beth-el,

23 And Avim, and Parah, and Ophrah,

24 And Chephar-haammonai, and Ophni, and Gaba; twelve cities with their villages:

25 Gibeon, and Ramah, and Beeroth,

26 And Mizpeh, and Chephirah, and Mozah,

27 And Rekem, and Irpeel, and Taralah,

28 And Zelah, Eleph, and Jebusi, which *is* Jerusalem, Gibeath, *and* Kirjath; fourteen cities with their villages. This *is* the inheritance of the children of Benjamin according to their families.

Chapter 19

1 The lot of Simeon, 10 of Zebulun, 17 of Issachar, 24 of Asher, 32 of Naphtali, 40 of Dan. 49 The children of Israel give an inheritance to Joshua.

AND the second lot came forth to Simeon, *even* for the tribe of the children of Simeon according to their families: and their inheritance was within the inheritance of the children of Judah.

2 And they had in their inheritance Beer-sheba, and Sheba, and Moladah,

3 And Hazar-shual, and Balah, and Azem,
4 And Eltolad, and Bethul, and Hormah,
5 And Ziklag, and Beth-marcaboth, and Hazar-susah,
6 And Beth-lebaoth, and Sharuhén; thirteen cities and their villages:
7 Ain, Remmon, and Ether, and Ashan; four cities and their villages:

8 And all the villages that *were* round about these cities to Baalath-beer, Ramath of the south. This *is* the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Simeon according to their families.

9 Out of the portion of the children of Judah *was* the inheritance of the children of Simeon: for the part of the children of Judah was too much for them; therefore the children of Simeon had their inheritance within the inheritance of them.

10 ¶ And the third lot came up for the children of Zebulun according to their families: and the border of their inheritance was unto Sarid:

11 And their border went up toward the sea, and Maralah, and reached to Dabbasheth, and reached to the river that *is* before Jokneam;

12 And turned from Sarid eastward toward the sunrising unto the border of Chisloth-tabor, and then goeth out to Daberath, and goeth up to Japhia,

13 And from thence passeth on along on the east to Gittah-hepher, to Ittah-kazin, and goeth out to Remmon-methoar to Neah;

14 And the border compasseth it on the north side to Hannathon: and the outgoings thereof are in the valley of Jiphthah-el:

15 And Kattath, and Nahallal, and Shimron, and Idalah, and Bethlehem: twelve cities with their villages.

16 This *is* the inheritance of the children of Zebulun according to their families, these cities with their villages.

17 ¶ And the fourth lot came out to Issachar, for the children of Issachar according to their families.

18 And their border was toward Jezreel, and Chesulloth, and Shunem,

19 And Haphraim, and Shihon, and Anaharath,

20 And Rabbith, and Kishion, and Abez,

21 And Remeth, and En-gannim, and En-haddah, and Beth-pazzez;

22 And the coast reacheth to Tabor, and Shahazimah, and Beth-shemesh; and the outgoings of their border were at Jordan: sixteen cities with their villages.

23 This *is* the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Issachar according to their families, the cities and their villages.

24 ¶ And the fifth lot came out for the tribe of the children of Asher according to their families.

25 And their border was Helkath, and Hali, and Beten, and Achshaph,

26 And Alammelech, and Amad, and Misheal; and reacheth to Carmel westward, and to Shihor-libnath;

27 And turneth toward the sunrising to Beth-dagon, and reacheth to Zebulun, and to the valley of Jiphthah-el toward the north side of Beth-emek, and Neiel, and goeth out to Cabul on the left hand,

28 And Hebron, and Rehob, and Hammon, and Kanah, *even* unto great Zidon;

29 And *then* the coast turneth to Ramah, and to the strong city Tyre; and the coast turneth to Hosah; and the outgoings thereof are at the sea from the coast to Achzib:

30 Ummah also, and Aphek, and Rehob: twenty and two cities with their villages.

31 This *is* the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Asher according to their families, these cities with their villages.

32 ¶ The sixth lot came out to the children of Naphtali, *even* for the children of Naphtali according to their families.

33 And their coast was from Heleph, from Allon to Zaanannim, and Adami, Nekeb, and Jabneel, unto Lakum; and the outgoings thereof were at Jordan:

34 And *then* the coast turneth westward to Aznoth-tabor, and goeth out from thence to Hukkok, and reacheth to Zebulun on the south side, and reacheth to Asher on the west side, and to Judah upon Jordan toward the sunrising.

35 And the fenced cities *are* Ziddim, Zer, and Dammath, Rakkath, and Chinnereth,

36 And Adamah, and Ramah, and Hazor,

37 And Kedesh, and Edrei, and En-hazor,

38 And Iron, and Migdal-el, Horem, and Beth-anath, and Beth-shemesh; nineteen cities with their villages.

39 This *is* the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Naphtali according to their families, the cities and their villages.

40 ¶ And the seventh lot came out for the tribe of the children of Dan according to their families.

41 And the coast of their inheritance was Zorah, and Eshtaol, and Irshemesh,

42 And Shaalabbin, and Ajalon, and Jethlah,

43 And Elon, and Thimnathah, and Ekron,

44 And Eltekeh, and Gibbethon, and Baalath,

45 And Jehud, and Bene-berak, and Gath-rimmon,

46 And Me-jarkon, and Rakkon, with the border before Japho.

47 And the coast of the children of Dan went out *too little* for them: therefore the children of Dan went up to fight against Leshem and took it, and smote it with the edge of the sword, and possessed it, and

dwelt therein, and called Leshem, Dan, after the name of Dan their father.

48 This *is* the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Dan according to their families, these cities with their villages.

49 ¶ When they had made an end of dividing the land for inheritance by their coasts, the children of Israel gave an inheritance to Joshua the son of Nun among them:

50 According to the word of the LORD they gave him the city which he asked, *even* Timnath-serah in mount Ephraim: and he built the city, and dwelt therein.

51 These *are* the inheritances, which Eleazar the priest, and Joshua the son of Nun, and the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel, divided for an inheritance by lot in Shiloh before the LORD, at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. So they made an end of dividing the country.

Chapter 20

¹ God commandeth, ⁷ and the children of Israel appoint the six cities of refuge.



HE LORD also spake unto Joshua, saying,

2 Speak to the children of Israel, saying, Appoint out for you cities of refuge, whereof I spake unto you by the hand of Moses:

3 That the slayer that killeth *any* person unawares *and* unwittingly may flee thither: and they shall be your refuge from the avenger of blood.

4 And when he that doth flee unto one of those cities shall stand at the entering of the gate of the city, and shall declare his cause in the ears of the elders of that city, they shall take him into the city unto them, and give him a place, that he may dwell among them.

5 And if the avenger of blood pursue after him, then they shall not deliver the slayer up into his hand; because he smote his neighbour unwittingly, and hated him not beforetime.

6 And he shall dwell in that city, until he stand before the congregation for judgment, *and* until the death of the high priest that shall be in those days: then shall the slayer return, and come unto his own city, and unto his own house, unto the city from whence he fled.

7 ¶ And they appointed Kedesh in Galilee in mount Naphtali, and Shechem in mount Ephraim, and Kirjath-arba, which *is* Hebron, in the mountain of Judah.

8 And on the other side Jordan by Jericho eastward, they assigned Bezer in the wilderness upon the plain out of the tribe of Reuben, and Ramoth in Gilead out of the tribe of Gad, and Golan in Bashan out of the tribe of Manasseh.

9 These were the cities appointed for all the children of Israel, and

for the stranger that sojourneth among them, that whosoever killeth *any* person at unawares might flee thither, and not die by the hand of the avenger of blood, until he stood before the congregation.

Chapter 21

¹ Eight and forty cities given by lot, out of the other tribes, unto the Levites. ⁴³ God gave the land, and rest unto the Israelites, according to his promise.



CHEN came near the heads of the fathers of the Levites unto Eleazar the priest, and unto Joshua the son of Nun, and unto the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel;

2 And they spake unto them at Shiloh in the land of Canaan, saying, the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses to give us cities to dwell in, with the suburbs thereof for our cattle.

3 And the children of Israel gave unto the Levites out of their inheritance, at the commandment of the LORD, these cities and their suburbs.

4 And the lot came out for the families of the Kohathites: and the children of Aaron the priest, *which were* of the Levites, had by lot out of the tribe of Judah, and out of the tribe of Simeon, and out of the tribe of Benjamin, thirteen cities.

5 And the rest of the children of Kohath *had* by lot out of the families of the tribe of Ephraim, and out of the tribe of Dan, and out of the half tribe of Manasseh, ten cities.

6 And the children of Gershon *had* by lot out of the families of the tribe of Issachar, and out of the tribe of Asher, and out of the tribe of Naphtali, and out of the half tribe of Manasseh in Bashan, thirteen cities.

7 The children of Merari by their families *had* out of the tribe of Reuben, and out of the tribe of Gad, and out of the tribe of Zebulun, twelve cities.

8 And the children of Israel gave by lot unto the Levites these cities with their suburbs, as the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses.

9 ¶ And they gave out of the tribe of the children of Judah, and out of the tribe of the children of Simeon, these cities which are *here* mentioned by name,

10 Which the children of Aaron, *being* of the families of the Kohathites, *who were* of the children of Levi, had: for theirs was the first lot.

11 And they gave them the city of Arba, the father of Anak, which city is Hebron, in the hill country of Judah, with the suburbs thereof round about it.

12 But the fields of the city, and the villages thereof, gave they to Caleb the son of Jephunneh for his possession.

13 ¶ Thus they gave to the children of Aaron the priest Hebron

with her suburbs, *to be* a city of refuge for the slayer; and Libnah with her suburbs,

14 And Jattir with her suburbs, and Eshtemoa with her suburbs,

15 And Holon with her suburbs, and Debir with her suburbs,

16 And Ain with her suburbs, and Juttah with her suburbs, *and* Beth-shemesh with her suburbs; nine cities out of those two tribes.

17 And out of the tribe of Benjamin, Gibeon with her suburbs, Geba with her suburbs,

18 Anathoth with her suburbs, and Almon with her suburbs; four cities.

19 All the cities of the children of Aaron, the priests, *were* thirteen cities with their suburbs.

20 ¶ And the families of the children of Kohath, the Levites which remained of the children of Kohath, even they had the cities of their lot out of the tribe of Ephraim.

21 For they gave them Shechem with her suburbs in mount Ephraim, *to be* a city of refuge for the slayer; and Gezer with her suburbs,

22 And Kibzaim with her suburbs, and Beth-horon with her suburbs; four cities.

23 And out of the tribe of Dan, Eltekeh with her suburbs, Gibbethon with her suburbs,

24 Aijalon with her suburbs, Gathrimmon with her suburbs; four cities.

25 And out of the half tribe of Manasseh, Tanach with her suburbs, and Gath-rimmon with her suburbs; two cities.

26 All the cities *were* ten with their suburbs for the families of the children of Kohath that remained.

27 ¶ And unto the children of Gershon, of the families of the Levites, out of the *other* half tribe of Manasseh, *they gave* Golan in Bashan with her suburbs, *to be* a city of refuge for the slayer; and Beesh-terah with her suburbs; two cities.

28 And out of the tribe of Issachar, Kishon with her suburbs. Dabareh with her suburbs,

29 Jarmuth with her suburbs, En-gannim with her suburbs; four cities.

30 And out of the tribe of Asher, Mishal with her suburbs, Abdon with her suburbs,

31 Helkath with her suburbs, and Rehob with her suburbs; four cities.

32 And out of the tribe of Naphtali, Kedesh in Galilee with her suburbs, *to be* a city of refuge for the slayer; and Hammoth-dor with her suburbs, and Kartan with her suburbs; three cities.

33 All the cities of the Gershonites according to their families *were* thirteen cities with their suburbs.

34 ¶ And unto the families of the children of Merari, the rest of

the Levites, out of the tribe of Zebulun, Jokneam with her suburbs, and Kartah with her suburbs,

35 Dimnah with her suburbs, Nahalal with her suburbs; four cities.

36 And out of the tribe of Reuben, Bezer with her suburbs, and Jahazah with her suburbs,

37 Kedemoth with her suburbs, and Mephaath with her suburbs; four cities.

38 And out of the tribe of Gad, Ramoth in Gilead with her suburbs, *to be* a city of refuge for the slayer; and Mahanaim with her suburbs,

39 Heshbon with her suburbs, Jazer with her suburbs; four cities in all.

40 So all the cities for the children of Merari by their families, which were remaining of the families of the Levites, were *by* their lot twelve cities.

41 All the cities of the Levites within the possession of the children of Israel *were* forty and eight cities with their suburbs.

42 These cities were every one with their suburbs round about them: thus *were* all these cities.

43 ¶ And the LORD gave unto Israel all the land which he sware to give unto their fathers; and they possessed it, and dwelt therein.

44 And the LORD gave them rest round about, according to all that he sware unto their fathers: and there stood not a man of all their enemies before them: the LORD delivered all their enemies into their hand.

45 There failed not ought of any good thing which the LORD had spoken unto the house of Israel; all came to pass.

Chapter 22

1 The two tribes and a half with a blessing are sent home. 10 They build the altar of testimony in their journey. 11 The Israelites are offended thereat. 21 They give them good satisfaction.



WHEN Joshua called the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh,

2 And said unto them, Ye have kept all that Moses the the servant of the LORD commanded you, and have obeyed my voice in all that I commanded you:

3 Ye have not left your brethren these many days unto this day, but have kept the charge of the commandment of the LORD your God.

4 And now the LORD your God hath given rest unto your brethren, as he promised them: therefore now return ye, and get you unto your tents, *and* unto the land of your possession, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave you on the other side Jordan.

5 But take diligent heed to do the commandment and the law, which Moses the servant of the LORD charged you, to love the LORD your God, and to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments,

and to cleave unto him, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.

6 So Joshua blessed them, and sent them away: and they went unto their tents.

7 ¶ Now to the *one* half of the tribe of Manasseh Moses had given possession in Bashan: but unto the *other* half thereof gave Joshua among their brethren on this side Jordan westward. And when Joshua sent them away also unto their tents, then he blessed them,

8 And he spake unto them, saying, Return with much riches unto your tents, and with very much cattle, with silver, and with gold, and with brass, and with iron, and with very much raiment: divide the spoil of your enemies with your brethren.

9 ¶ And the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh returned, and departed from the children of Israel out of Shiloh, which *is* in the land of Canaan, to go unto the country of Gilead, to the land of their possession, whereof they were possessed, according to the word of the LORD by the hand of Moses.

10 ¶ And when they came unto the borders of Jordan, that *are* in the land of Canaan, the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh built there an altar by Jordan, a great altar to see to.

11 ¶ And the children of Israel heard say, Behold the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh have built an altar over against the land of Canaan, in the borders of Jordan, at the passage of the children of Israel.

12 And when the children of Israel heard *of it*, the whole congregation of the children of Israel gathered themselves together at Shiloh, to go up to war against them.

13 And the children of Israel sent unto the children of Reuben, and to the children of Gad, and to the half tribe of Manasseh, into the land of Gilead, Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest,

14 And with him ten princes, of each chief house a prince throughout all the tribes of Israel; and each one *was* an head of the house of their fathers among the thousands of Israel.

15 ¶ And they came unto the children of Reuben, and to the children of Gad, and to the half tribe of Manasseh, unto the land of Gilead, and they spake with them, saying,

16 Thus saith the whole congregation of the LORD, What trespass *is* this that ye have committed against the God of Israel, to turn away this day from following the LORD, in that ye have builded you an altar, that ye might rebel this day against the LORD?

17 *Is* the iniquity of Peor too little for us, from which we are not cleansed until this day, although there was a plague in the congregation of the LORD,

18 But that ye must turn away this day from following the LORD? and it will be, *seeing* ye rebel to-day against the LORD, that to-morrow he will be wroth with the whole congregation of Israel.

19 Notwithstanding, if the land of your possession *be* unclean, *then* pass ye over unto the land of the possession of the LORD, wherein the LORD's tabernacle dwelleth, and take possession among us: but rebel not against the LORD, nor rebel against us, in building you an altar beside the altar of the LORD our God.

20 Did not Achan the son of Zerah commit a trespass in the accursed thing, and wrath fell on all the congregation of Israel? and that man perished not alone in his iniquity.

21 ¶ Then the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh answered, and said unto the heads of the thousands of Israel,

22 The LORD God of gods, the LORD God of gods, he knoweth, and Israel he shall know; if *it be* in rebellion, or if in transgression against the LORD, (save us not this day,)

23 That we have built us an altar to turn from following the LORD, or if to offer thereon burnt offering or meat offering, or if to offer peace offerings thereon, let the LORD himself require *it*;

24 And if we have not *rather* done it for fear of *this* thing, saying, In time to come your children might speak unto our children, saying, What have ye to do with the LORD God of Israel?

25 For the LORD hath made Jordan a border between us and you, ye children of Reuben and children of Gad: ye have no part in the LORD: so shall your children make our children cease from fearing the LORD.

26 Therefore we said, Let us now prepare to build us an altar, not for burnt offering, nor for sacrifice:

27 But *that it may be* a witness between us, and you, and our generations after us, that we might do the service of the LORD before him with our burnt offerings, and with our sacrifices, and with our peace offerings; that your children may not say to our children in time to come, Ye have no part in the LORD.

28 Therefore said we, that it shall be, when they should *so* say to us or to our generations in time to come, that we may say *again*, Behold the pattern of the altar of the LORD, which our fathers made, not for burnt offerings, nor for sacrifices; but it *is* a witness between us and you.

29 God forbid that we should rebel against the LORD, and turn this day from following the LORD, to build an altar for burnt offerings, for meat offerings, or for sacrifices, beside the altar of the LORD our God that *is* before his tabernacle.

30 ¶ And when Phinehas the priest, and the princes of the congregation and heads of the thousands of Israel which *were* with him,

heard the words that the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the children of Manasseh spake, it pleased them.

31 And Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest said unto the children of Reuben, and to the children of Gad, and to the children of Manasseh, This day we perceive that the LORD *is* among us, because ye have not committed this trespass against the LORD: now ye have delivered the children of Israel out of the hand of the LORD.

32 ¶ And Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest, and the princes, returned from the children of Reuben, and from the children of Gad, out of the land of Gilead, unto the land of Canaan, to the children of Israel, and brought them word again.

33 And the thing pleased the children of Israel; and the children of Israel blessed God, and did not intend to go up against them in battle, to destroy the land wherein the children of Reuben and Gad dwelt.

34 And the children of Reuben and the children of Gad called the altar *Ed*¹: for it *shall be* a witness between us that the LORD *is* God.

Chapter 23

¹ Joshua's exhortation before his death, ³ by former benefits, ⁵ by promises, ¹¹ and by threatenings.

AND it came to pass a long time after that the LORD had given rest unto Israel from all their enemies round about, that Joshua waxed old *and* stricken in age.

2 And Joshua called for all Israel *and* for their elders, and for their heads, and for their judges, and for their officers, and said unto them, I am old *and* stricken in age:

3 And ye have seen all that the LORD your God hath done unto all these nations because of you; for the LORD your God *is* he that hath fought for you.

4 Behold, I have divided unto you by lot these nations that remain, to be an inheritance for your tribes, from Jordan, with all the nations that I have cut off, even unto the great sea westward.

5 And the LORD your God, he shall expel them from before you, and drive them from out of your sight; and ye shall possess their land, as the LORD your God hath promised unto you.

6 Be ye therefore very courageous to keep and to do all that is written in the book of the law of Moses, that ye turn aside therefrom *to* the right hand or *to* the left;

7 That ye come not among these nations, these that remain among you; neither make mention of the name of their gods, nor cause to swear *by them*, neither serve them, nor bow yourselves unto them:

8 But cleave unto the LORD your God, as ye have done unto this day.

9 For the LORD hath driven out from before you great nations and

¹"Ed" means "a witness."

strong: but *as for* you, no man hath been able to stand before you unto this day.

10 One man of you shall chase a thousand: for the LORD your God, he *it is* that fighteth for you, as he hath promised you.

11 Take good heed therefore unto yourselves, that ye love the LORD your God.

12 Else if ye do in any wise go back, and cleave unto the remnant of these nations, *even* these that remain among you, and shall make marriages with them, and go in unto them, and they to you:

13 Know for a certainty that the LORD your God will no more drive out *any of* these nations from before you; but they shall be snares and traps unto you, and scourges in your sides, and thorns in your eyes, until ye perish from off this good land which the LORD your God hath given you.

14 And, behold, this day I *am* going the way of all the earth: and ye know in all your hearts and in all your souls, that not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, *and* not one thing hath failed thereof.

15 Therefore it shall come to pass, *that* as all good things are come upon you, which the LORD your God promised you; so shall the LORD bring upon you all evil things, until he have destroyed you from off this good land which the LORD your God hath given you.

16 When ye have transgressed the covenant of the LORD your God which he commanded you, and have gone and served other gods, and bowed yourselves to them; then shall the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and ye shall perish quickly from off the good land which he hath given unto you.

Chapter 24

1 Joshua assembleth the tribes at Shechem. 2 A brief history of God's benefits from Terah. 14 He reneweth the covenant between them and God. 26 A stone the witness of the covenant. 29 Joshua's age, death, and burial. 32 Joseph's bones are buried. 33 Eleazar dieth.

AND Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and called for the elders of Israel, and for their heads, and for their judges, and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God.

2 And Joshua said unto all the people, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Your fathers dwelt on the other side of the flood¹ in old time, *even* Terah, the father of Abraham, and the father of Nachor; and they served other gods.

3 And I took your father Abraham from the other side of the flood, and led him throughout all the land of Canaan, and multiplied his seed, and gave him Isaac.

¹The Revised Version says "beyond the River," that is, in the Euphrates valley.

4 And I gave unto Isaac Jacob and Esau: and I gave unto Esau mount Seir, to possess it; but Jacob and his children went down into Egypt.

5 I sent Moses also and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt, according to that which I did among them: and afterward I brought you out.

6 And I brought your fathers out of Egypt: and ye came unto the sea; and the Egyptians pursued after your fathers with chariots and horsemen unto the Red sea.

7 And when they cried unto the LORD, he put darkness between you and the Egyptians, and brought the sea upon them, and covered them; and your eyes have seen what I have done in Egypt: and ye dwelt in the wilderness a long season.

8 And I brought you into the land of the Amorites, which dwelt on the other side Jordan; and they fought with you: and I gave them into your hand, that ye might possess their land; and I destroyed them from before you.

9 Then Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, arose and warred against Israel, and sent and called Balaam the son of Beor to curse you:

10 But I would not hearken unto Balaam; therefore he blessed you still: so I delivered you out of his hand.

11 And ye went over Jordan, and came unto Jericho: and the men of Jericho fought against you, the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Gergashites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites; and I delivered them into your hand.

12 And I sent the hornet before you, which drave them out from before you, *even* the two kings of the Amorites; *but* not with thy sword, nor with thy bow.

13 And I have given you a land for which ye did not labour, and cities which ye built not, and ye dwell in them; of the vineyards and oliveyards which ye planted not do ye eat.

14 ¶ Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD.

15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that *were* on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

16 And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the LORD, to serve other gods;

17 For the LORD our God, he *it is* that brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and which did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way wherein we went, and among all the people through whom we passed:

18 And the LORD drave out from before us all the people, even the Amorites which dwelt in the land: *therefore* will we also serve the LORD; for he *is* our God.

19 And Joshua said unto the people, Ye cannot serve the LORD: for he *is* an holy God; he *is* a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins.

20 If ye forsake the LORD, and serve strange gods, then he will turn and do you hurt, and consume you, after that he hath done you good.

21 And the people said unto Joshua, Nay; but we will serve the LORD.

22 And Joshua said unto the people, Ye *are* witnesses against yourselves that ye have chosen you the LORD, to serve him. And they said, *We are* witnesses.

23 Now therefore put away, *said he*, the strange gods which *are* among you, and incline your heart unto the LORD God of Israel.

24 And the people said unto Joshua, The LORD our God will we serve, and his voice will we obey.

25 So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and set them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem.

26 ¶ And Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God, and took a great stone, and set it up there under an oak, that *was* by the sanctuary of the LORD.

27 And Joshua said unto all the people, Behold, this stone shall be a witness unto us; for it hath heard all the words of the LORD which he spake unto us: it shall be therefore a witness unto you, lest ye deny your God.

28 So Joshua let the people depart, every man unto his inheritance.

29 ¶ And it came to pass after these things, that Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, *being* an hundred and ten years old.

30 And they buried him in the border of his inheritance in Timnath-serah, which *is* in mount Ephraim, on the north side of the hill of Gaash.

31 And Israel served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that overlived Joshua, and which had known all the works of the LORD, that he had done for Israel.

32 ¶ And the bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel brought up out of Egypt, buried they in Shechem, in a parcel of ground which Jacob bought of the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for an hundred pieces of silver: and it became the inheritance of the children of Joseph.

33 And Eleazar the son of Aaron died; and they buried him in a hill *that pertained to* Phinehas his son, which was given him in mount Ephraim.

THE recent marked revival of interest in the Bible makes the present work particularly timely, though its issue has been in preparation several years. It presents a new departure in Bible making, **THE LATEST AND MOST IMPORTANT IDEA** in spreading both the knowledge and the meaning of the Scriptures. Common sense tells us that the mind is taught mainly by the eye. Hence the Bible may best be learned through pictures. Our Sunday Schools are awakening to this fact and seeking everywhere for suitable illustrations. The present work meets this need. Not only does it contain the **MOST EXTENSIVE SERIES OF RELIGIOUS PICTURES** ever brought together in the world's history, but each subject has been selected with peculiar care both for its lesson and for its artistic worth. Each presents the work of **SOME GREAT PAINTER**, and each has been individually treated so as to secure the **BEST POSSIBLE RESULTS OF THE PLATE MAKERS' AND PRINTERS' ARTS**. Thus the work must prove not only profoundly impressive to children, but **A DELIGHT TO ART LOVERS** in general, and a source of information to every eye, **AN EASY AND ATTRACTIVE ROAD TO KNOWLEDGE**.

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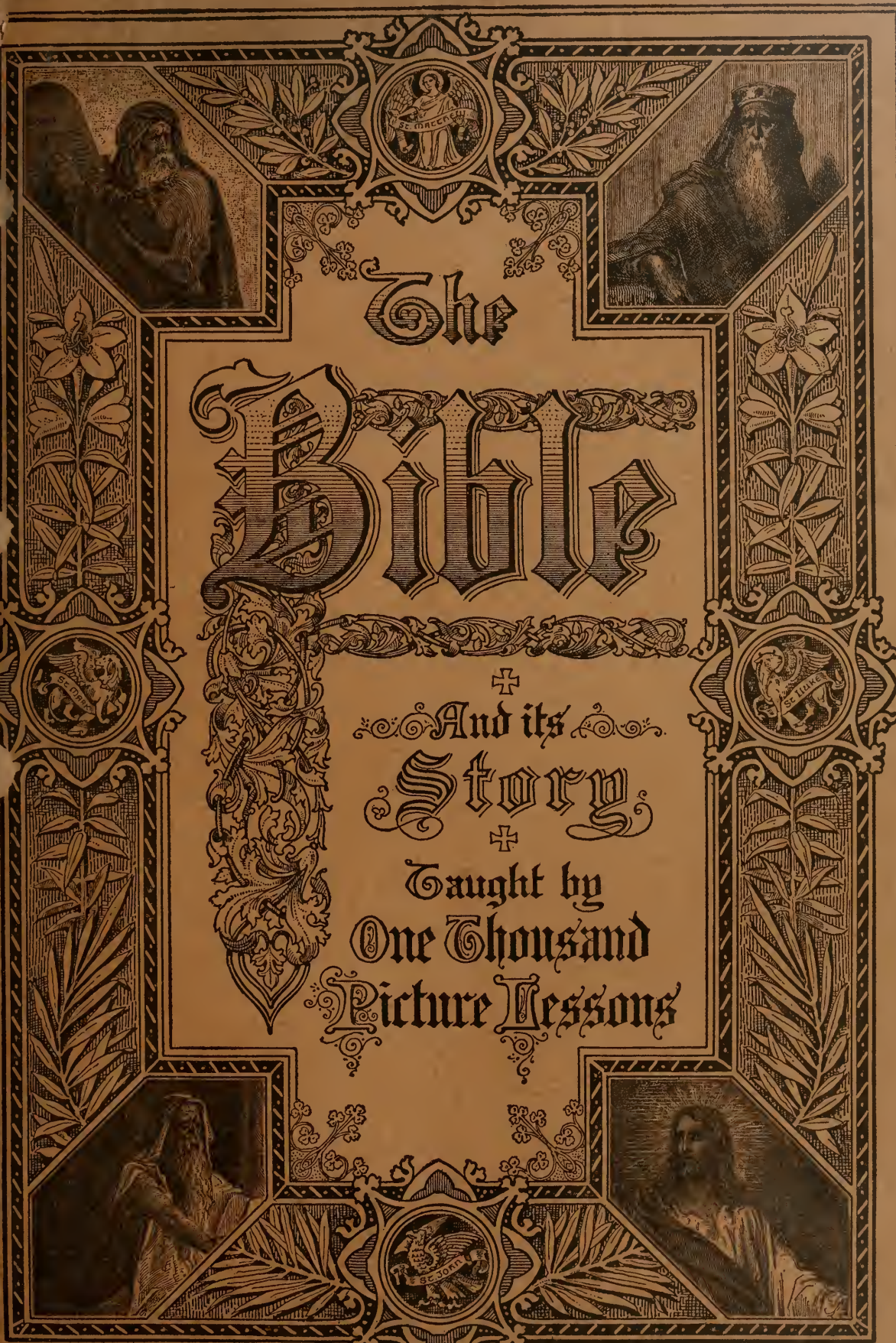
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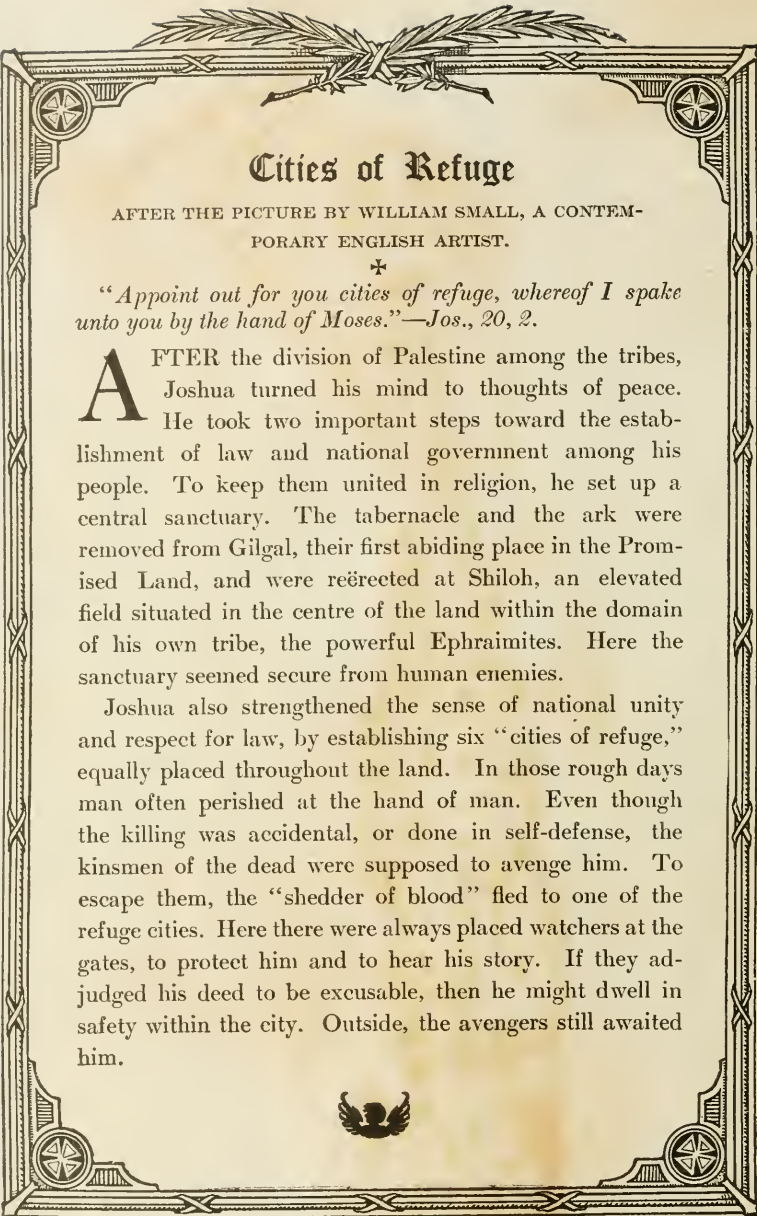


The

Bible

And its
Story

Taught by
One Thousand
Picture Lessons



Cities of Refuge

AFTER THE PICTURE BY WILLIAM SMALL, A CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH ARTIST.

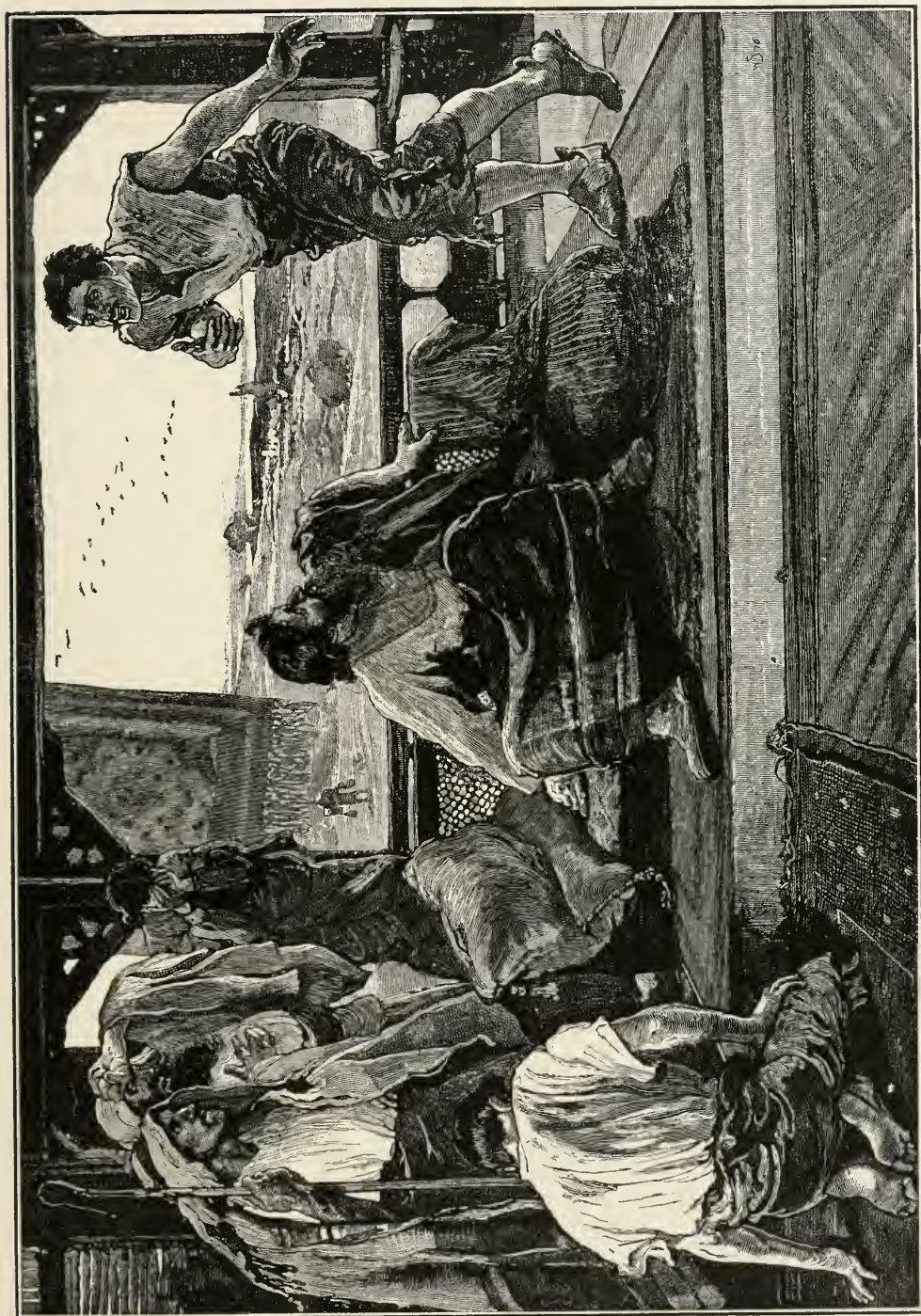


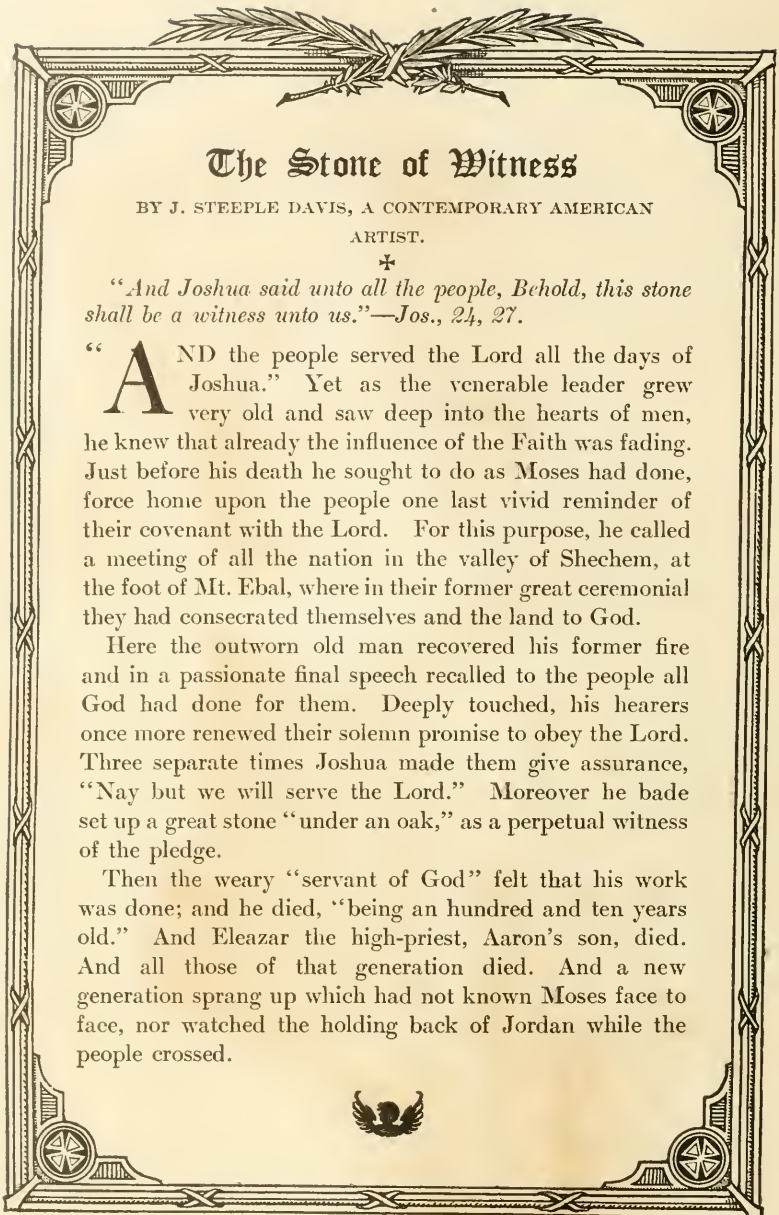
"Appoint out for you cities of refuge, whereof I spake unto you by the hand of Moses."—Jos., 20, 2.

AFTER the division of Palestine among the tribes, Joshua turned his mind to thoughts of peace. He took two important steps toward the establishment of law and national government among his people. To keep them united in religion, he set up a central sanctuary. The tabernacle and the ark were removed from Gilgal, their first abiding place in the Promised Land, and were reërected at Shiloh, an elevated field situated in the centre of the land within the domain of his own tribe, the powerful Ephraimites. Here the sanctuary seemed secure from human enemies.

Joshua also strengthened the sense of national unity and respect for law, by establishing six "cities of refuge," equally placed throughout the land. In those rough days man often perished at the hand of man. Even though the killing was accidental, or done in self-defense, the kinsmen of the dead were supposed to avenge him. To escape them, the "shedder of blood" fled to one of the refuge cities. Here there were always placed watchers at the gates, to protect him and to hear his story. If they adjudged his deed to be excusable, then he might dwell in safety within the city. Outside, the avengers still awaited him.







The Stone of Witness

BY J. STEEPLE DAVIS, A CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN
ARTIST.



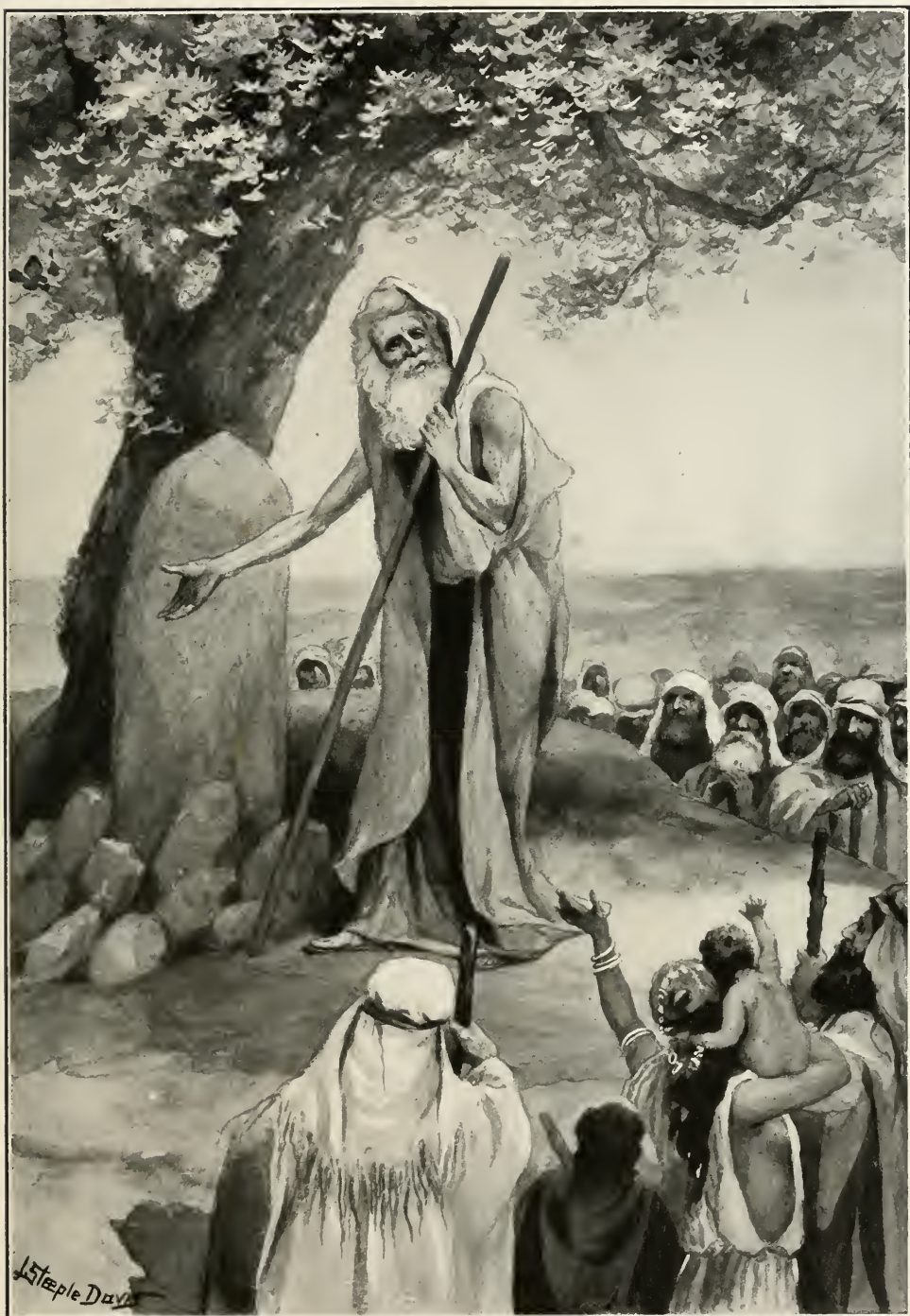
"And Joshua said unto all the people, Behold, this stone shall be a witness unto us."—Jos., 24, 27.

"AND the people served the Lord all the days of Joshua." Yet as the venerable leader grew very old and saw deep into the hearts of men, he knew that already the influence of the Faith was fading. Just before his death he sought to do as Moses had done, force home upon the people one last vivid reminder of their covenant with the Lord. For this purpose, he called a meeting of all the nation in the valley of Shechem, at the foot of Mt. Ebal, where in their former great ceremonial they had consecrated themselves and the land to God.

Here the outworn old man recovered his former fire and in a passionate final speech recalled to the people all God had done for them. Deeply touched, his hearers once more renewed their solemn promise to obey the Lord. Three separate times Joshua made them give assurance, "Nay but we will serve the Lord." Moreover he bade set up a great stone "under an oak," as a perpetual witness of the pledge.

Then the weary "servant of God" felt that his work was done; and he died, "being an hundred and ten years old." And Eleazar the high-priest, Aaron's son, died. And all those of that generation died. And a new generation sprang up which had not known Moses face to face, nor watched the holding back of Jordan while the people crossed.





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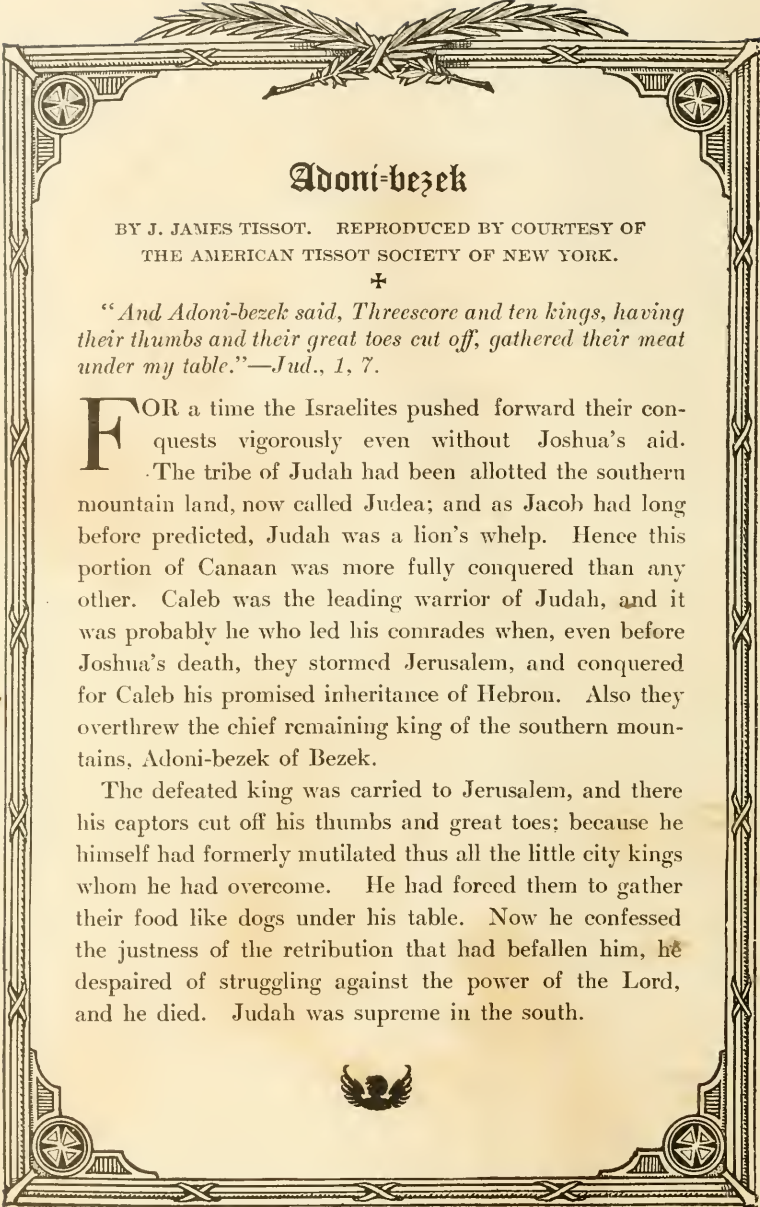
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Adoni-bezek

BY J. JAMES TISSOT. REPRODUCED BY COURTESY OF
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"And Adoni-bezek said, Threescore and ten kings, having their thumbs and their great toes cut off, gathered their meat under my table."—Jud., 1, 7.

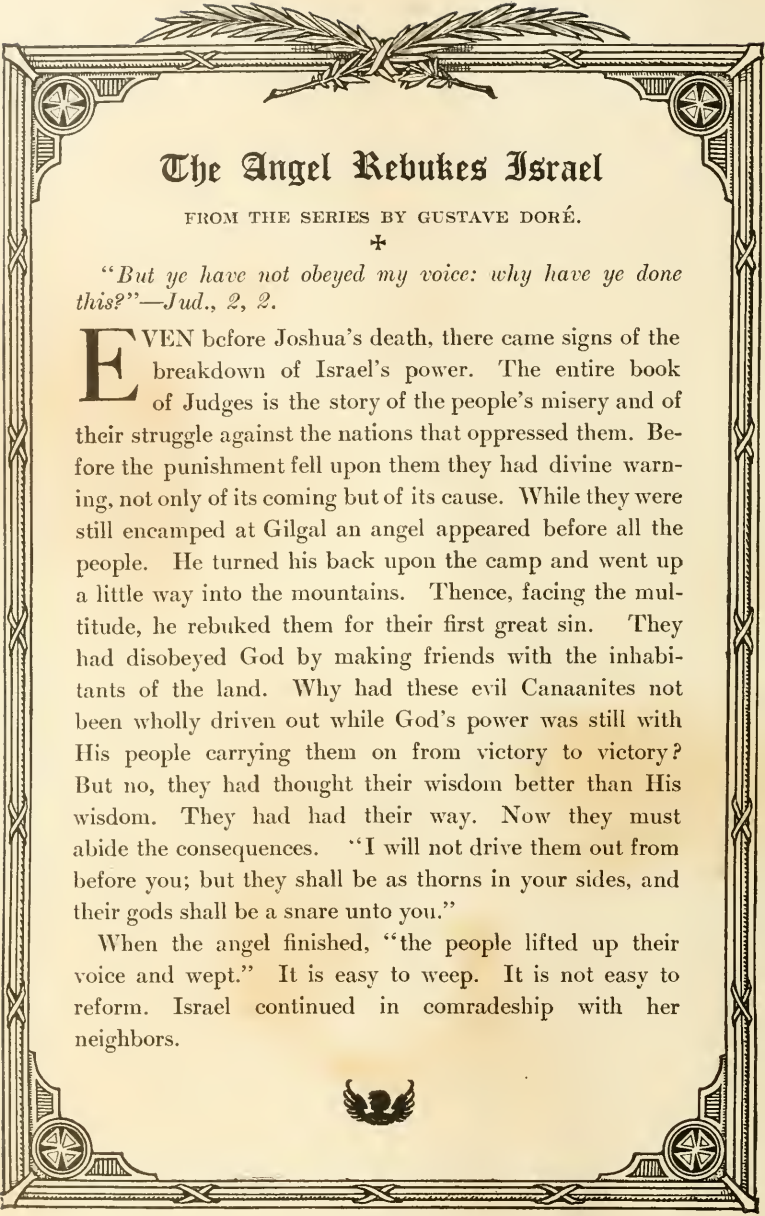
FOR a time the Israelites pushed forward their conquests vigorously even without Joshua's aid. The tribe of Judah had been allotted the southern mountain land, now called Judea; and as Jacob had long before predicted, Judah was a lion's whelp. Hence this portion of Canaan was more fully conquered than any other. Caleb was the leading warrior of Judah, and it was probably he who led his comrades when, even before Joshua's death, they stormed Jerusalem, and conquered for Caleb his promised inheritance of Hebron. Also they overthrew the chief remaining king of the southern mountains, Adoni-bezek of Bezek.

The defeated king was carried to Jerusalem, and there his captors cut off his thumbs and great toes; because he himself had formerly mutilated thus all the little city kings whom he had overcome. He had forced them to gather their food like dogs under his table. Now he confessed the justness of the retribution that had befallen him, he despaired of struggling against the power of the Lord, and he died. Judah was supreme in the south.





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The Angel Rebukes Israel

FROM THE SERIES BY GUSTAVE DORÉ.



"But ye have not obeyed my voice: why have ye done this?"—Jud., 2, 2.

EVEN before Joshua's death, there came signs of the breakdown of Israel's power. The entire book of Judges is the story of the people's misery and of their struggle against the nations that oppressed them. Before the punishment fell upon them they had divine warning, not only of its coming but of its cause. While they were still encamped at Gilgal an angel appeared before all the people. He turned his back upon the camp and went up a little way into the mountains. Thence, facing the multitude, he rebuked them for their first great sin. They had disobeyed God by making friends with the inhabitants of the land. Why had these evil Canaanites not been wholly driven out while God's power was still with His people carrying them on from victory to victory? But no, they had thought their wisdom better than His wisdom. They had had their way. Now they must abide the consequences. "I will not drive them out from before you; but they shall be as thorns in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare unto you."

When the angel finished, "the people lifted up their voice and wept." It is easy to weep. It is not easy to reform. Israel continued in comradeship with her neighbors.





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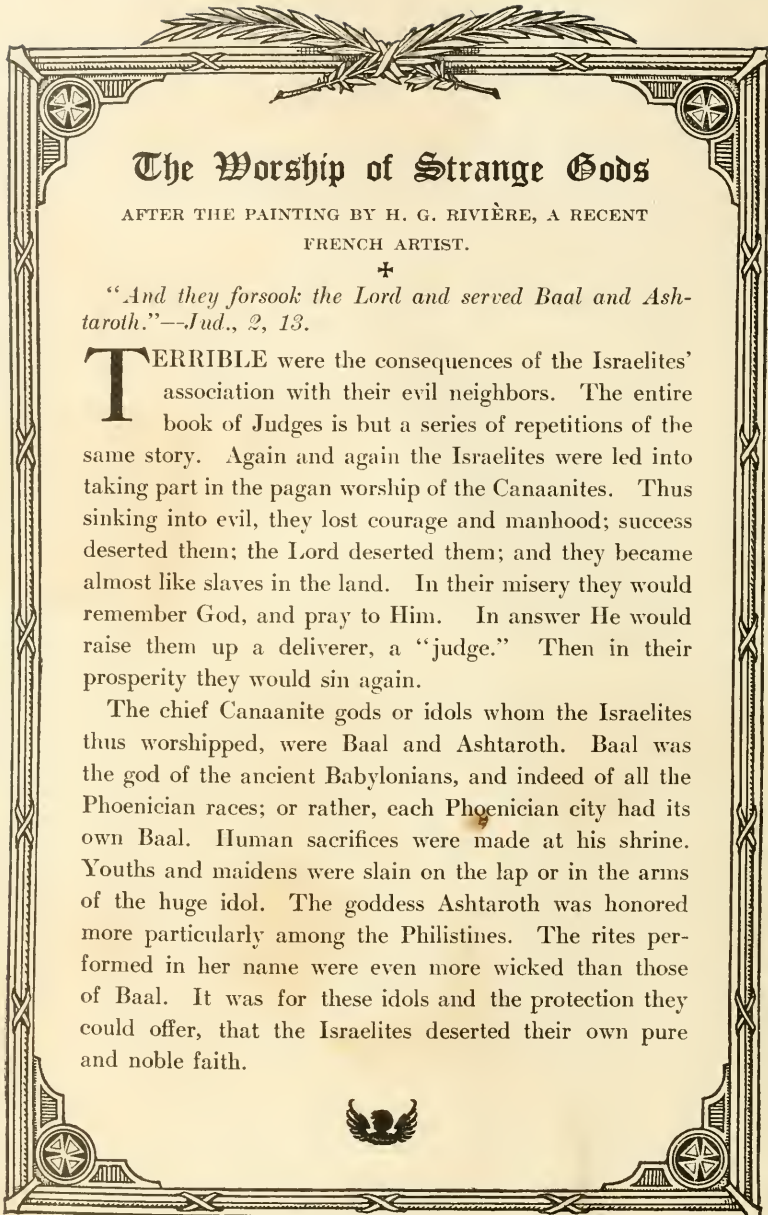
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The Worship of Strange Gods

AFTER THE PAINTING BY H. G. RIVIÈRE, A RECENT
FRENCH ARTIST.

†
*“And they forsook the Lord and served Baal and Ash-
taroath.”—Jud., 2, 13.*

TERRIBLE were the consequences of the Israelites' association with their evil neighbors. The entire book of Judges is but a series of repetitions of the same story. Again and again the Israelites were led into taking part in the pagan worship of the Canaanites. Thus sinking into evil, they lost courage and manhood; success deserted them; the Lord deserted them; and they became almost like slaves in the land. In their misery they would remember God, and pray to Him. In answer He would raise them up a deliverer, a “judge.” Then in their prosperity they would sin again.

The chief Canaanite gods or idols whom the Israelites thus worshipped, were Baal and Ashtaroath. Baal was the god of the ancient Babylonians, and indeed of all the Phoenician races; or rather, each Phoenician city had its own Baal. Human sacrifices were made at his shrine. Youths and maidens were slain on the lap or in the arms of the huge idol. The goddess Ashtaroath was honored more particularly among the Philistines. The rites performed in her name were even more wicked than those of Baal. It was for these idols and the protection they could offer, that the Israelites deserted their own pure and noble faith.



Journal

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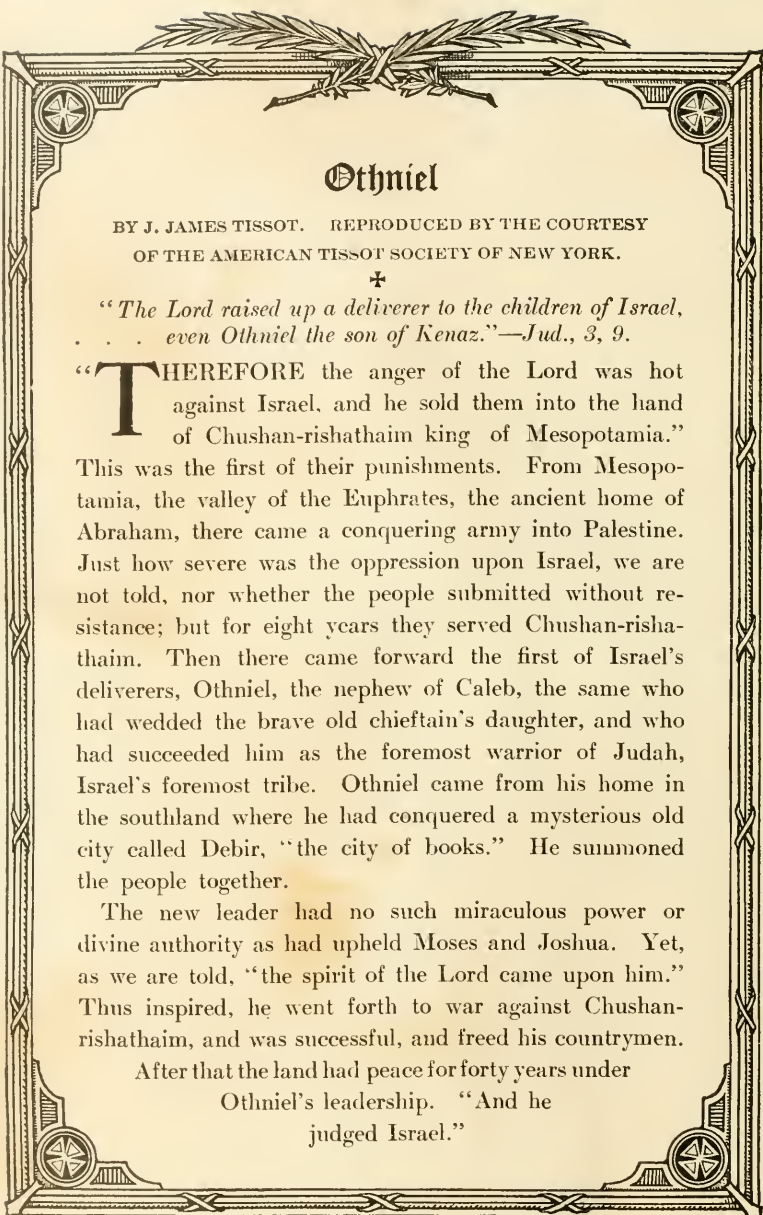
At the close of the year 1917, the American Medical Association has the honor to announce that it has received from the Government of the United States a grant of \$100,000 for the purpose of conducting a campaign of public education in regard to the prevention of disease and the promotion of health. This grant is the first of a series of similar grants which the Government has made available to the American Medical Association for the purpose of conducting such campaigns. The American Medical Association is deeply indebted to the Government for this generous contribution, and it is confident that the campaign which it is now conducting will be of great benefit to the people of the United States.

The American Medical Association is a non-profit-making organization, and its only source of income is the subscription fee paid by its members. It is therefore dependent upon the generosity of its members for its continued existence. It is therefore a matter of great importance to the American Medical Association that its members should be kept informed of its activities and of the needs of the organization. It is therefore the policy of the American Medical Association to publish a journal which shall contain information of interest to its members and to the public. This journal is the Journal of the American Medical Association, and it is the hope of the Association that it will be of great value to its members and to the public.

The Journal of the American Medical Association is published weekly, except on Sundays and public holidays. It is published in English and in French. The subscription price is Five Dollars Per Annum in Advance. The subscription price for single copies is Fifteen Cents. The subscription price for libraries is Fifteen Dollars Per Annum in Advance. The subscription price for foreign countries is Fifteen Dollars Per Annum in Advance. The subscription price for the Eastern Hemisphere is Fifteen Dollars Per Annum in Advance. The subscription price for the Western Hemisphere is Fifteen Dollars Per Annum in Advance. The subscription price for the Eastern Hemisphere is Fifteen Dollars Per Annum in Advance. The subscription price for the Western Hemisphere is Fifteen Dollars Per Annum in Advance.

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Othniel

BY J. JAMES TISSOT. REPRODUCED BY THE COURTESY
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*"The Lord raised up a deliverer to the children of Israel,
even Othniel the son of Kenaz."—Jud., 3, 9.*

THEREFORE the anger of the Lord was hot against Israel, and he sold them into the hand of Chushan-rishathaim king of Mesopotamia." This was the first of their punishments. From Mesopotamia, the valley of the Euphrates, the ancient home of Abraham, there came a conquering army into Palestine. Just how severe was the oppression upon Israel, we are not told, nor whether the people submitted without resistance; but for eight years they served Chushan-rishathaim. Then there came forward the first of Israel's deliverers, Othniel, the nephew of Caleb, the same who had wedded the brave old chieftain's daughter, and who had succeeded him as the foremost warrior of Judah, Israel's foremost tribe. Othniel came from his home in the southland where he had conquered a mysterious old city called Debir, "the city of books." He summoned the people together.

The new leader had no such miraculous power or divine authority as had upheld Moses and Joshua. Yet, as we are told, "the spirit of the Lord came upon him." Thus inspired, he went forth to war against Chushan-rishathaim, and was successful, and freed his countrymen.

After that the land had peace for forty years under
Othniel's leadership. "And he
judged Israel."



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Ehud Rescues Israel

BY FORD MADDOX BROWN, A LEADER OF THE PRERAPHAELITE SCHOOL IN ENGLAND, DIED 1893.

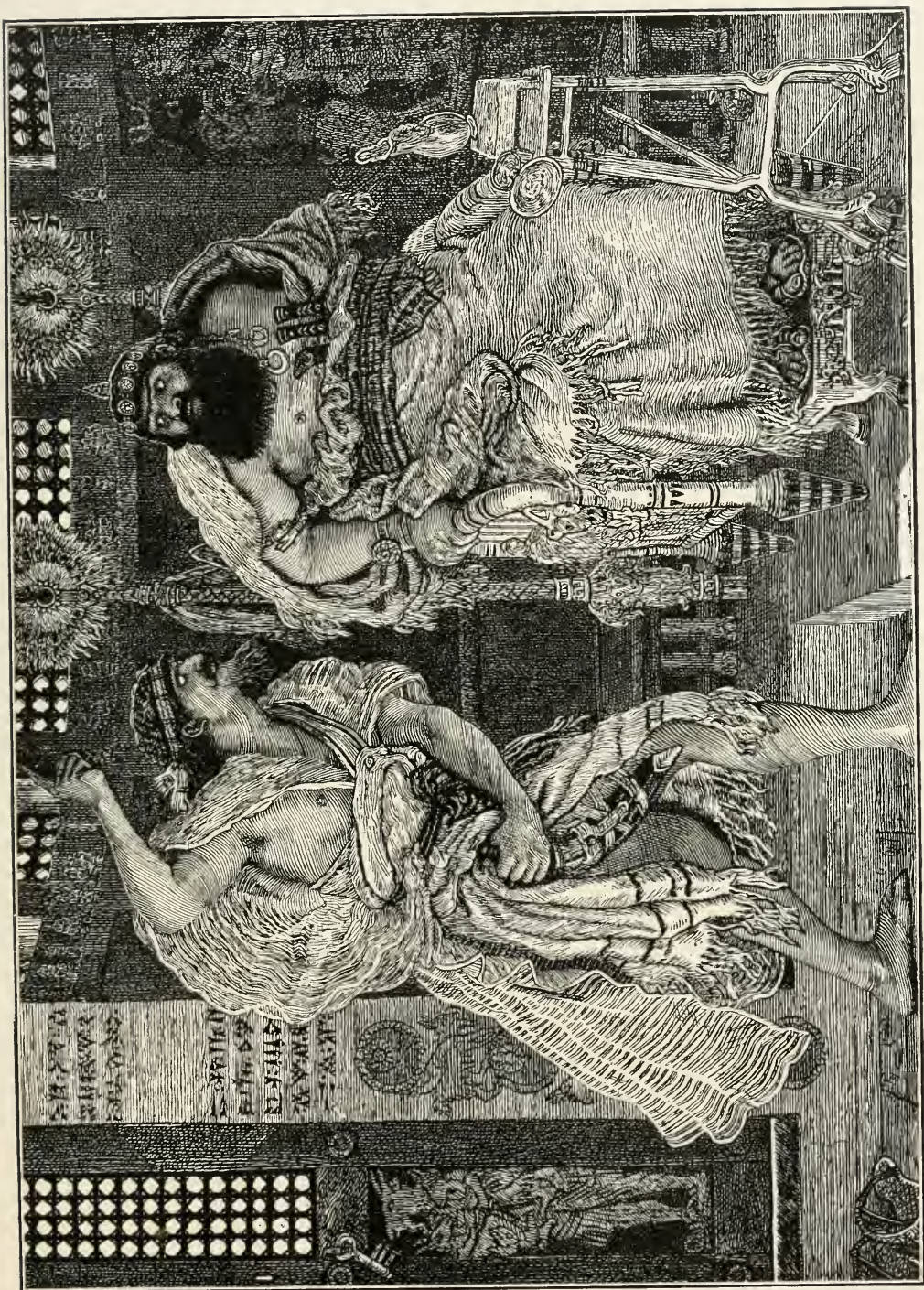


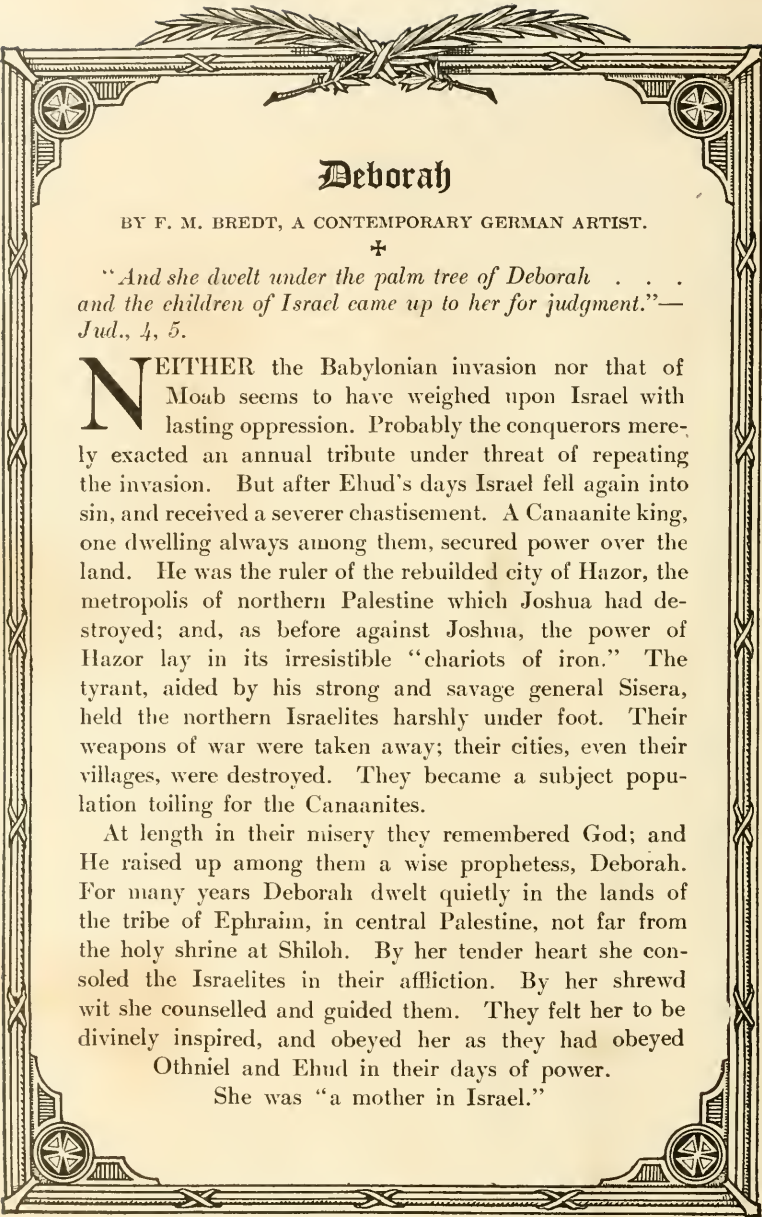
"And Ehud put forth his left hand, and took the dagger from his right thigh."—Jud., 3, 21.

AFTER Othniel's death the scattered and disunited Israelites were attacked by Eglon, king of Moab. From his lands east of the Dead Sea he marched northward, as the Israelites themselves had done, crossed the Jordan and captured Jericho. From this valley fortress he domineered over Canaan for eighteen years.

His tyranny was overthrown by Ehud, of the tribe of Benjamin, "a man left-handed." Ehud was sent to bear a "present," a tribute from Israel, to King Eglon. After proffering the gift and leaving the royal palace, he came suddenly back and besought a secret audience with the king. When they two were left alone, he came close as though to whisper. Eglon was a strong man, and shrewd and watchful. But Ehud by using his left hand deceived the king, and suddenly thrust a dagger into his body so fiercely that the fat of the gross body of the king closed over it completely. The wounded man could not draw out the weapon, and he fell dead, apparently untouched. Then Ehud fled and roused his countrymen against the Moabites, and slew or captured all of the race who had followed their king to the Canaanite side of Jordan. Again Israel was free.







Deborah

BY F. M. BREDT, A CONTEMPORARY GERMAN ARTIST.



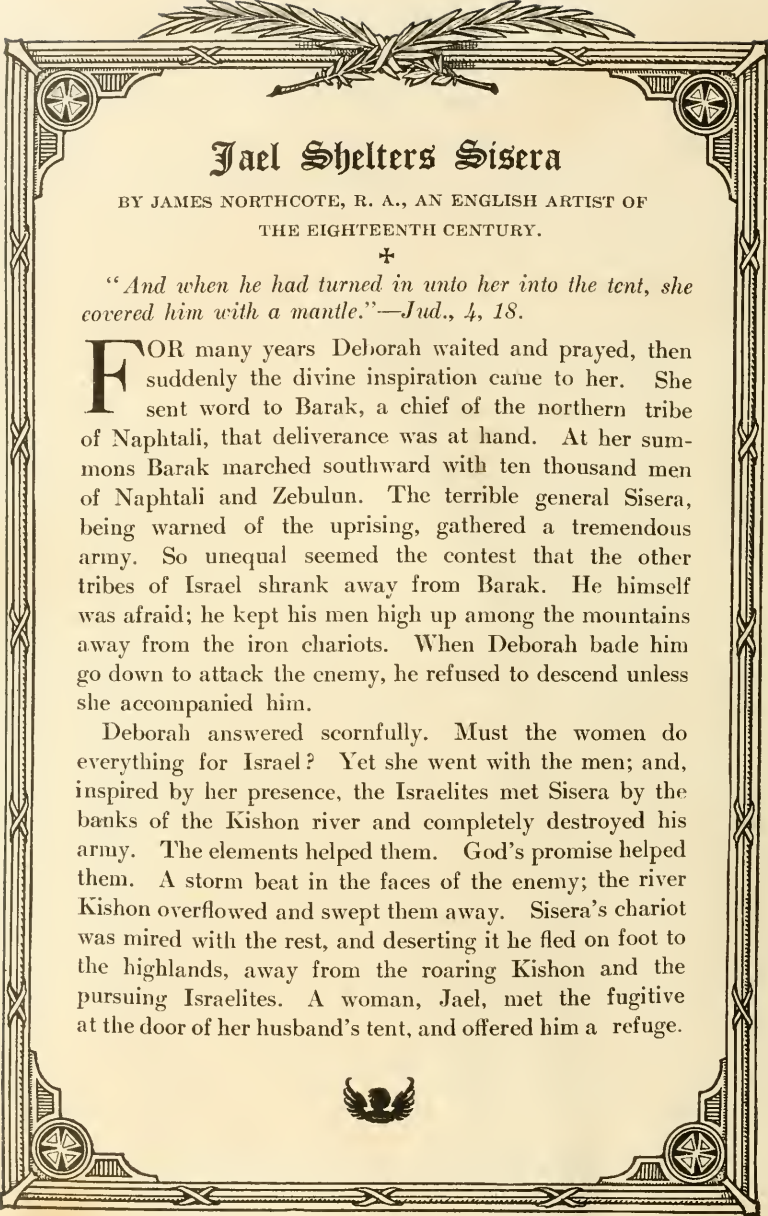
*"And she dwelt under the palm tree of Deborah . . .
and the children of Israel came up to her for judgment."—
Jud., 4, 5.*

NEITHER the Babylonian invasion nor that of Moab seems to have weighed upon Israel with lasting oppression. Probably the conquerors merely exacted an annual tribute under threat of repeating the invasion. But after Ehud's days Israel fell again into sin, and received a severer chastisement. A Canaanite king, one dwelling always among them, secured power over the land. He was the ruler of the rebuilt city of Hazor, the metropolis of northern Palestine which Joshua had destroyed; and, as before against Joshua, the power of Hazor lay in its irresistible "chariots of iron." The tyrant, aided by his strong and savage general Sisera, held the northern Israelites harshly under foot. Their weapons of war were taken away; their cities, even their villages, were destroyed. They became a subject population toiling for the Canaanites.

At length in their misery they remembered God; and He raised up among them a wise prophetess, Deborah. For many years Deborah dwelt quietly in the lands of the tribe of Ephraim, in central Palestine, not far from the holy shrine at Shiloh. By her tender heart she consoled the Israelites in their affliction. By her shrewd wit she counselled and guided them. They felt her to be divinely inspired, and obeyed her as they had obeyed Othniel and Ehud in their days of power.

She was "a mother in Israel."





Jael Shelters Sisera

BY JAMES NORTHCOTE, R. A., AN ENGLISH ARTIST OF
THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.



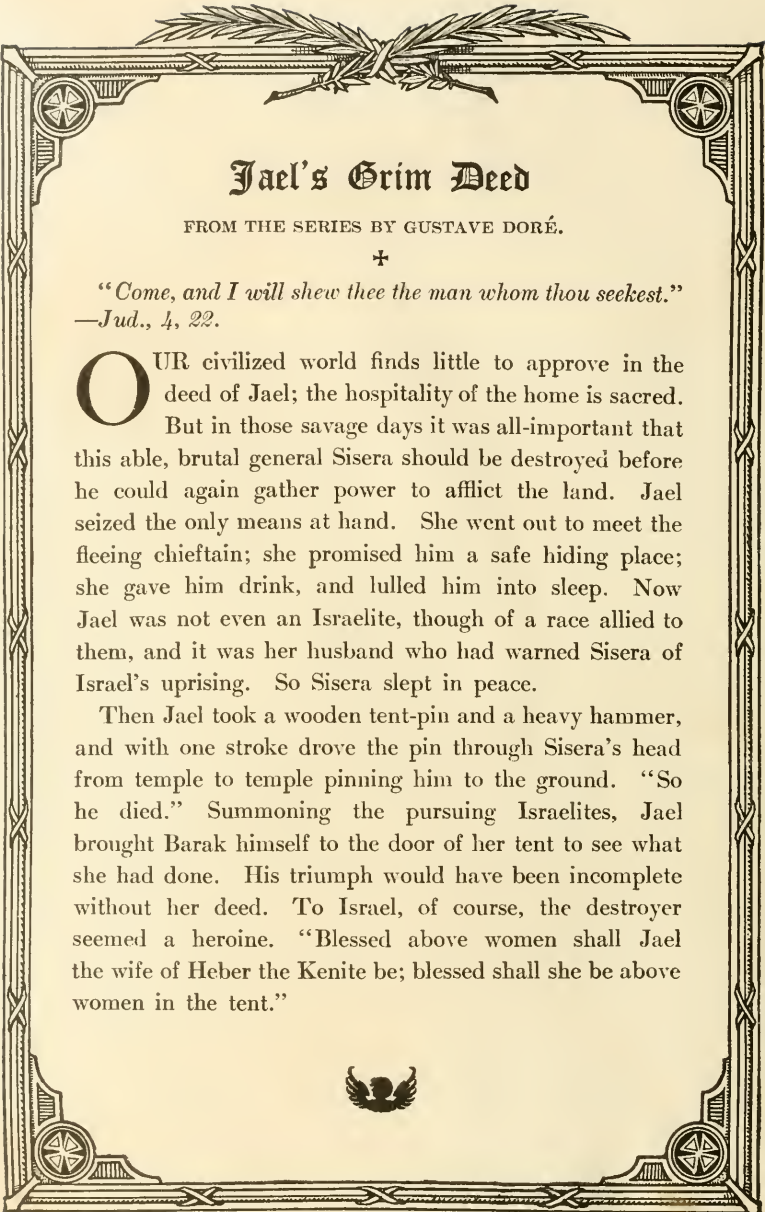
"And when he had turned in unto her into the tent, she covered him with a mantle."—Jud., 4, 18.

FOR many years Deborah waited and prayed, then suddenly the divine inspiration came to her. She sent word to Barak, a chief of the northern tribe of Naphtali, that deliverance was at hand. At her summons Barak marched southward with ten thousand men of Naphtali and Zebulun. The terrible general Sisera, being warned of the uprising, gathered a tremendous army. So unequal seemed the contest that the other tribes of Israel shrank away from Barak. He himself was afraid; he kept his men high up among the mountains away from the iron chariots. When Deborah bade him go down to attack the enemy, he refused to descend unless she accompanied him.

Deborah answered scornfully. Must the women do everything for Israel? Yet she went with the men; and, inspired by her presence, the Israelites met Sisera by the banks of the Kishon river and completely destroyed his army. The elements helped them. God's promise helped them. A storm beat in the faces of the enemy; the river Kishon overflowed and swept them away. Sisera's chariot was mired with the rest, and deserting it he fled on foot to the highlands, away from the roaring Kishon and the pursuing Israelites. A woman, Jael, met the fugitive at the door of her husband's tent, and offered him a refuge.







Jael's Grim Deed

FROM THE SERIES BY GUSTAVE DORÉ.

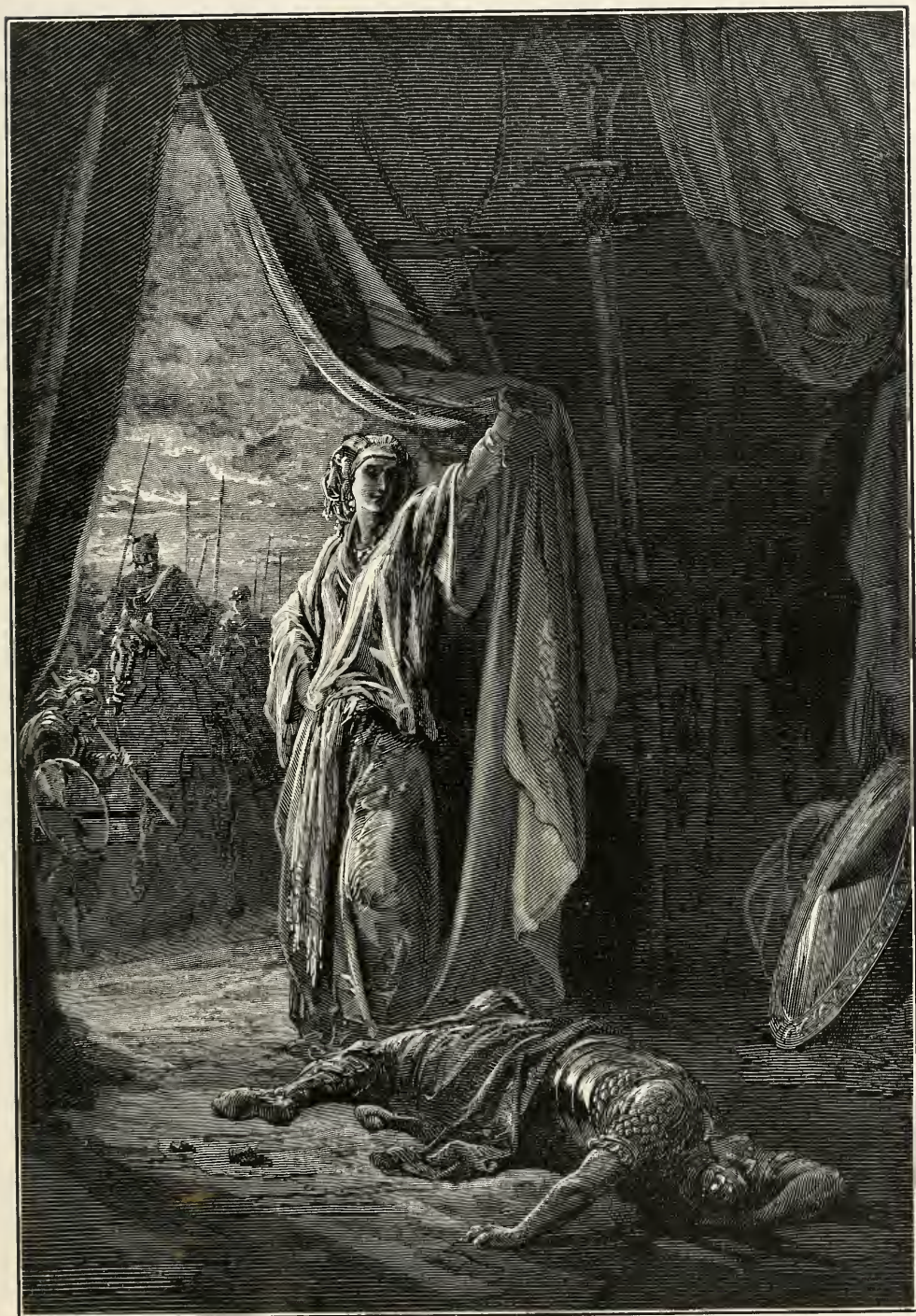


"Come, and I will shew thee the man whom thou seekest."
—Jud., 4, 22.

OUR civilized world finds little to approve in the deed of Jael; the hospitality of the home is sacred. But in those savage days it was all-important that this able, brutal general Sisera should be destroyed before he could again gather power to afflict the land. Jael seized the only means at hand. She went out to meet the fleeing chieftain; she promised him a safe hiding place; she gave him drink, and lulled him into sleep. Now Jael was not even an Israelite, though of a race allied to them, and it was her husband who had warned Sisera of Israel's uprising. So Sisera slept in peace.

Then Jael took a wooden tent-pin and a heavy hammer, and with one stroke drove the pin through Sisera's head from temple to temple pinning him to the ground. "So he died." Summoning the pursuing Israelites, Jael brought Barak himself to the door of her tent to see what she had done. His triumph would have been incomplete without her deed. To Israel, of course, the destroyer seemed a heroine. "Blessed above women shall Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite be; blessed shall she be above women in the tent."





Theobald's Song

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Deborah's Song

FROM THE SERIES BY GUSTAVE DORÉ.



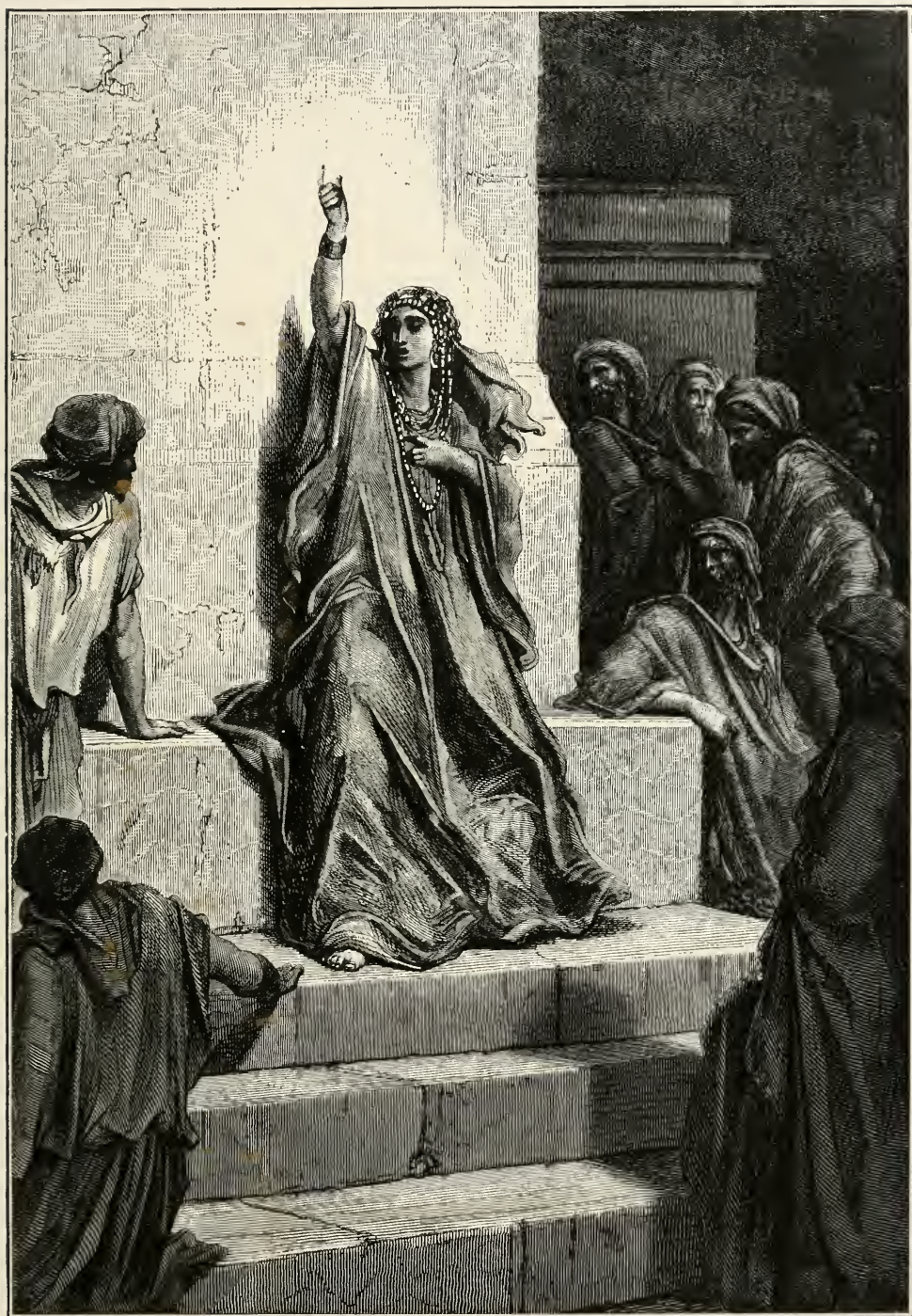
*"Awake, awake, Deborah; awake, awake, utter a song."—
Jud., 5, 12.*

DEBORAH is the most prominent woman to figure in the Old Testament. She was Israel's one female "judge." The honor of being a chief prophetess she shares with Miriam, Moses' sister; but Miriam's prophecies are unrecorded, and she was disobedient to God, while Deborah was ever faithful and devoted to her people.

Very high among the poetic passages of the Bible ranks the "song" with which she proclaimed her joy at the great victory of Barak. For twenty years had she, the "mother in Israel," watched in silence, enduring at heart every pang inflicted on every one of all the downtrodden. Now the tyrant was overthrown. With Sisera and his army gone, Barak attacked and easily destroyed the king of Hazor. Then he joined with Deborah, and doubtless all the people joined also, in her chant of triumph.

The song is full of the power of God, of praise of the river Kishon, "that ancient river" which had swept away the enemy. The verses taunt the timorous tribes of Israel which had failed to join with Barak. The people's former misery is described; and the poem closes in savage, barbaric exultation over the mother of Sisera, waiting for her son, watching in vain at her window lattice.

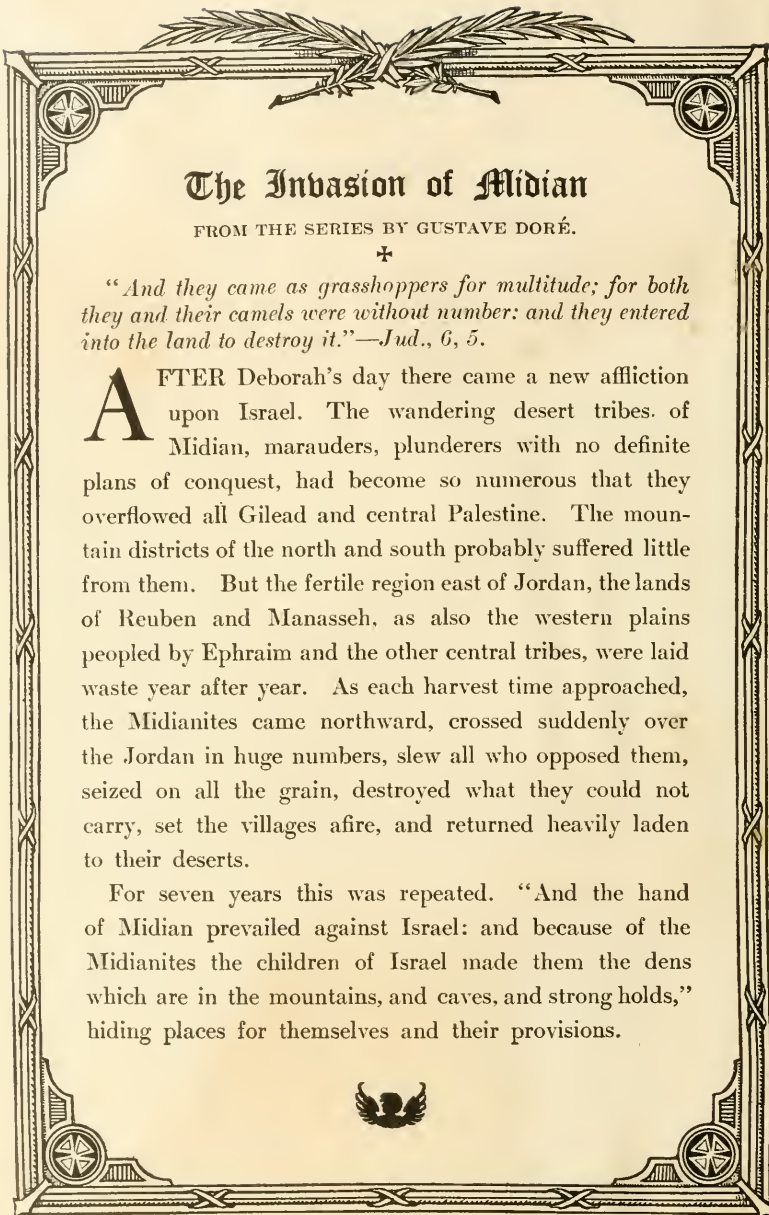




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The American Academy of Letters
 was founded in 1890 by a group of
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 purpose to promote the study
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The Invasion of Midian

FROM THE SERIES BY GUSTAVE DORÉ.



"And they came as grasshoppers for multitude; for both they and their camels were without number: and they entered into the land to destroy it."—Jud., 6, 5.

AFTER Deborah's day there came a new affliction upon Israel. The wandering desert tribes of Midian, marauders, plunderers with no definite plans of conquest, had become so numerous that they overflowed all Gilead and central Palestine. The mountain districts of the north and south probably suffered little from them. But the fertile region east of Jordan, the lands of Reuben and Manasseh, as also the western plains peopled by Ephraim and the other central tribes, were laid waste year after year. As each harvest time approached, the Midianites came northward, crossed suddenly over the Jordan in huge numbers, slew all who opposed them, seized on all the grain, destroyed what they could not carry, set the villages afire, and returned heavily laden to their deserts.

For seven years this was repeated. "And the hand of Midian prevailed against Israel: and because of the Midianites the children of Israel made them the dens which are in the mountains, and caves, and strong holds," hiding places for themselves and their provisions.





Introduction to the Book of Judges

The book of Judges is so called because it deals with the times when Israel was ruled by judges, at least in so far as the people had any rulers at all. Its authorship has been attributed by tradition to the prophet Samuel and also to King Solomon, and it certainly contains some ancient fragments, notably the song of Deborah, almost if not wholly contemporary with the events described. But the book as a whole was composed later, and its final revision into its present shape can scarcely be older than the sixth century B. C., the period of the Babylonish captivity.

Chronologically the book covers a period of uncertain length following the death of Joshua. The story is by no means chronologically arranged, nor can dates be applied to it with any accuracy. The book is in two sections. The first extends through chapter sixteen. It begins at the death of Joshua and gives successively an account of the days and deeds of six notable judges, Othniel, Ehud, Deborah with Barak, Gideon, Jephthah and Samson, making side reference to six other judges who may have been either contemporary or intermediate leaders of lesser importance. The closing chapters of the book then narrate two separate events. They are an appendix, and their position at the end of the book must not be taken to imply that the events described happened later than the time of Samson. The one is the story of the migration of a portion of the tribe of Dan to its northern home, and the establishment of the sanctuary at Dan. The other is the tale of the civil war against the tribe of Benjamin, undertaken by the other eleven tribes. Both these events appear to belong to the earlier part of the period of the judges.

A general unity pervades the entire book. It is written with the clear purpose of showing the punishment of sin. It seeks to explain why the Israelites were for so many generations denied that complete possession of the Promised Land which had been assured to them. They disobeyed God. They made friends with the idolatrous Canaanites, forgot their Creator, and lapsed into the evil and debased religion of their neighbors. Hence they were punished by foreign invasions, by civil war among themselves, and by attacks of the Canaanites.

Historically we can trace in the book at least three distinct epochs in the course of Israel's development. The great invasion under Joshua had been only a partial success, the Israelites could not conquer the whole territory. They were scattered in tribes and did not attempt to conquer the land by their united forces. The Canaanites were by no means exterminated. They reasserted their power and the Israelites were in danger of becoming servants. Then Deborah succeeded in reuniting the tribes to some extent and their combined forces won them the supremacy of Central and Northern Palestine. But as the people began to pass from a nomadic to an agricultural mode of life, foreign nomads, such as they themselves had been, invaded them in turn. These were repelled by Gideon and Jephthah, and doubtless by many lesser chiefs. Then came the rise of a new, a maritime power, the Philistines, who, supported by the wealth brought from afar by their ships, came near to conquering Palestine in their turn. Samson fought against them ineffectively.

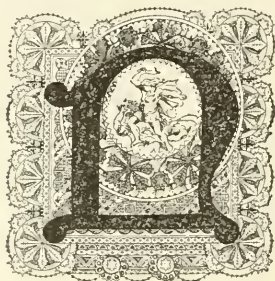


THE BOOK OF

Judges

Chapter 1

1 *The acts of Judah and Simeon.* 4 *Adoni-bezek justly requited.* 8 *Jerusalem taken.* 10 *Hebron taken.* 11 *Othniel hath Achsah to wife for taking of Debir.* 16 *The Kenites dwell in Judah.* 17 *Hormah, Gaza, Askelon, and Ekron taken.* 21 *The acts of Benjamin.* 22 *Of the house of Joseph, who take Beth-el.* 30 *Of Zebulun.* 31 *Of Asher.* 33 *Of Naphtali.* 34 *Of Dan.*



NOW after the death of Joshua it came to pass, that the children of Israel asked the LORD, saying, Who shall go up for us against the Canaanites first, to fight against them?

2 And the LORD said, Judah shall go up: behold, I have delivered the land into his hand.

3 And Judah said unto Simeon his brother, Come up with me into my lot, that we may fight against the Canaanites; and I likewise will go with thee into thy lot. So Simeon went with him.

4 And Judah went up; and the LORD delivered the Canaanites and the Perizzites into their hand: and they slew of them in Bezek ten thousand men.

5 And they found Adoni-bezek in Bezek: and they fought against him, and they slew the Canaanites and the Perizzites.

6 But Adoni-bezek fled; and they pursued after him, and caught him, and cut off his thumbs and his great toes.

7 And Adoni-bezek said, Three-score and ten kings, having their thumbs and their great toes cut off, gathered *their meat* under my table: as I have done, so God hath requited me. And they brought him to Jerusalem, and there he died.

8 Now the children of Judah had fought against Jerusalem, and had taken it, and smitten it with the edge of the sword, and set the city on fire.

9 ¶ And afterward the children of Judah went down to fight against the Canaanites, that dwelt in the mountain, and in the south, and in the valley.

10 And Judah went against the Canaanites that dwelt in Hebron: (now the name of Hebron before *was* Kirjath-arba:) and they slew Sheshai, and Ahiman, and Talmai.

11 And from thence he went against the inhabitants of Debir, and the name of Debir before *was* Kirjath-sepher:

12 And Caleb said, He that smiteth Kirjath-sepher, and taketh it, to him will I give Achsah my daughter to wife.

13 And Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother, took it: and he gave him Achsah his daughter to wife.

14 And it came to pass when she came *to him*, that she moved him to ask of her father a field: and she lighted from off *her* ass; and Caleb said unto her, What wilt thou?

15 And she said unto him, Give me a blessing: for thou hast given me a south land: give me also springs of water. And Caleb gave her the upper springs and the nether springs.¹

16 ¶ And the children of the Kenite, Moses's father-in-law,² went up out of the city of palm trees with the children of Judah into the wilderness of Judah, which *lieth* in the south of Arad; and they went and dwelt among the people.

17 And Judah went with Simeon his brother, and they slew the Canaanites that inhabited Zephath, and utterly destroyed it. And the name of the city was called Hormah.

18 Also Judah took Gaza with the coast thereof, and Askelon with the coast thereof, and Ekron with the coast thereof.

19 And the LORD was with Judah; and he drave out *the inhabitants* of the mountains; but could not drive out the inhabitants of the valley, because they had chariots of iron.

20 And they gave Hebron unto Caleb, as Moses said: and he expelled thence the three sons of Anak.

21 And the children of Benjamin did not drive out the Jebusites that inhabited Jerusalem; but the Jebusites dwell with the children of Benjamin in Jerusalem unto this day.

22 ¶ And the house of Joseph, they also went up against Beth-el: and the LORD *was* with them.

23 And the house of Joseph sent to descry Beth-el. (Now the name of the city before *was* Luz.)

24 And the spies saw a man come forth out of the city, and they said unto him, Shew us, we pray thee, the entrance into the city, and we will shew thee mercy.

25 And when he shewed them the entrance into the city, they smote the city with the edge of the sword; but they let go the man and all his family.

26 And the man went into the land of the Hittites, and built a city, and called the name thereof Luz: which *is* the name thereof unto this day.

¹This passage is a repetition of the account in Joshua, Chapter 15. ²Or "brother-in-law."

27 ¶ Neither did Manasseh drive out *the inhabitants of* Beth-shean and her towns, nor Taanach and her towns, nor the inhabitants of Dor and her towns, nor the inhabitants of Ibleam and her towns, nor the inhabitants of Megiddo and her towns: but the Canaanites would dwell in that land.

28 And it came to pass, when Israel was strong, that they put the Canaanites to tribute, and did not utterly drive them out.

29 ¶ Neither did Ephraim drive out the Canaanites that dwelt in Gezer; but the Canaanites dwelt in Gezer among them.

30 ¶ Neither did Zebulun drive out the inhabitants of Kitron, nor the inhabitants of Nahalol; but the Canaanites dwelt among them, and became tributaries.

31 ¶ Neither did Asher drive out the inhabitants of Accho, nor the inhabitants of Zidon, nor of Ahlab, nor of Achzib, nor of Helbah, nor of Aphik, nor of Rehob:

32 But the Asherites dwelt among the Canaanites, the inhabitants of the land: for they did not drive them out.

33 ¶ Neither did Naphtali drive out the inhabitants of Beth-shemesh, nor the inhabitants of Beth-anath; but he dwelt among the Canaanites, the inhabitants of the land: nevertheless the inhabitants of Beth-shemesh and of Beth-anath became tributaries unto them.

34 And the Amorites forced the children of Dan into the mountain: for they would not suffer them to come down to the valley:

35 But the Amorites would dwell in mount Heres in Aijalon, and in Shaalvim: yet the hand of the house of Joseph prevailed, so that they became tributaries.

36 And the coast of the Amorites *was* from the going up to Akrabim, from the rock, and upward.

Chapter 2

1 An angel rebuketh the people at Bochim. 6 The wickedness of the new generation after Joshua. 14 God's anger and pity towards them. 20 The Canaanites are left to prove Israel.

AND an angel of the LORD came up from Gilgal to Bochim, and said, I made you to go up out of Egypt, and have brought you unto the land which I sware unto your fathers; and I said, I will never break my covenant with you.

2 And ye shall make no league with the inhabitants of this land; ye shall throw down their altars: but ye have not obeyed my voice: why have ye done this?

3 Wherefore I also said, I will not drive them out from before you; but they shall be *as thorns* in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare unto you.

4 And it came to pass, when the angel of the LORD spake these words unto all the children of Israel, that the people lifted up their voice, and wept.

5 And they called the name of that place Bochim:¹ and they sacrificed there unto the LORD.

6 ¶ And when Joshua had let the people go, the children of Israel went every man unto his inheritance to possess the land.

7 And the people served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great works of the LORD, that he did for Israel.

8 And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, *being* an hundred and ten years old.

9 And they buried him in the border of his inheritance in Timnath-heres, in the mount of Ephraim, on the north side of the hill Gaash.

10 And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the LORD, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel.

11 ¶ And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim:²

12 And they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, which brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of the gods of the people that *were* round about them, and bowed themselves unto them, and provoked the LORD to anger.

13 And they forsook the LORD, and served Baal and Ashtaroth.³

14 ¶ And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he delivered them into the hands of spoilers that spoiled them, and he sold them into the hands of their enemies round about, so that they could not any longer stand before their enemies.

15 Whithersoever they went out, the hand of the LORD was against them for evil, as the LORD had said, and as the LORD had sworn unto them: and they were greatly distressed.

16 ¶ Nevertheless the LORD raised up judges, which delivered them out of the hand of those that spoiled them.

17 And yet they would not hearken unto their judges, but they went a whoring after other gods, and bowed themselves unto them: they turned quickly out of the way which their fathers walked in, obeying the commandments of the LORD; *but* they did not so.

18 And when the LORD raised them up judges, then the LORD was with the judge, and delivered them out of the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge: for it repented the LORD because of their groanings by reason of them that oppressed them and vexed them.

19 And it came to pass, when the judge was dead, *that* they returned and corrupted *themselves* more than their fathers, in following other gods to serve them, and to bow down unto them; they ceased not from their own doings, nor from their stubborn way.

¹Bochim means "the weepers." ²Baalim is the plural of Baal; it means the local deities of the Canaanites. ³Ashtaroth is a plural form for the female idols; the singular form is Ashtoreth, or Astarte. The whole genus of male and female deities is contrasted here with Jehovah.

20 ¶ And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel; and he said, Because that this people hath transgressed my covenant which I commanded their fathers, and have not hearkened unto my voice;

21 I also will not henceforth drive out any from before them of the nations which Joshua left when he died:

22 That through them I may prove Israel, whether they will keep the way of the LORD to walk therein, as their fathers did keep *it*, or not.

23 Therefore the LORD left those nations, without driving them out hastily; neither delivered he them into the hand of Joshua.

Chapter 3

1 The nations which were left to prove Israel. 6 By communion with them they commit idolatry. 8 Othniel delivereth them from Chushan-rishathaim. 12 Ehud from Eglon. 31 Shamgar from the Philistines.

NOW these *are* the nations which the LORD left to prove Israel by them, *even as many of Israel as had not known all the wars of Canaan;*

2 Only that the generations of the children of Israel might know, to teach them war, at the least such as before knew nothing thereof;

3 *Namely*, five lords of the Philistines, and all the Canaanites, and the Sidonians, and the Hivites that dwelt in mount Lebanon, from mount Baal-hermon unto the entering in of Hamath.

4 And they were to prove Israel by them, to know whether they would hearken unto the commandments of the LORD, which he commanded their fathers by the hand of Moses.

5 ¶ And the children of Israel dwelt among the Canaanites, Hittites, and Amorites, and Perizzites, and Hivites, and Jebusites:

6 And they took their daughters to be their wives, and gave their daughters to their sons, and served their gods.

7 And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and forgot the LORD their God, and served Baalim and the groves.¹

8 ¶ Therefore the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he sold them into the hand of Chushan-rishathaim king of Mesopotamia: and the children of Israel served Chushan-rishathaim eight years.

9 And when the children of Israel cried unto the LORD, the LORD raised up a deliverer to the children of Israel, who delivered them, *even* Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother.

10 And the Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he judged Israel, and went out to war: and the LORD delivered Chushan-rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand; and his hand prevailed against Chushan-rishathaim.

11 And the land had rest forty years. And Othniel the son of Kenaz died.

¹This word "groves" in the Revised Version is given in its Hebrew form as a proper name "ashereth." The "asherah" signifies a wooden post which stood near the altar and was regarded as the seat of the deity. Here, however, it seems to have the same import as Ashtaroth; see previous note.

12 ¶ And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD: and the LORD strengthened Eglon the king of Moab against Israel, because they had done evil in the sight of the LORD.

13 And he gathered unto him the children of Ammon and Amalek, and went and smote Israel, and possessed the city of palm trees.

14 So the children of Israel served Eglon the king of Moab eighteen years.

15 But when the children of Israel cried unto the LORD, the LORD raised them up a deliverer, Ehud the son of Gera, a Benjamite, a man lefthanded: and by him the children of Israel sent a present unto Eglon the king of Moab.

16 But Ehud made him a dagger which had two edges, of a cubit length; and he did gird it under his raiment upon his right thigh.

17 And he brought the present unto Eglon king of Moab: and Eglon *was* a very fat man.

18 And when he had made an end to offer the present, he sent away the people that bare the present.

19 But he himself turned again from the quarries that *were* by Gilgal, and said, I have a secret errand unto thee, O king: who said, Keep silence. And all that stood by him went out from him.

20 And Ehud came unto him; and he was sitting in a summer-parlour, which he had for himself alone. And Ehud said, I have a message from God unto thee. And he arose out of *his* seat.

21 And Ehud put forth his left hand, and took the dagger from his right thigh, and thrust it into his belly:

22 And the haft also went in after the blade; and the fat closed upon the blade, so that he could not draw the dagger out of his belly; and the dirt came out.

23 Then Ehud went forth through the porch, and shut the doors of the parlour upon him, and locked them.

24 When he was gone out, his servants came; and when they saw that, behold, the doors of the parlour *were* locked, they said, Surely he covereth his feet in his summer-chamber.

25 And they tarried till they were ashamed: and, behold, he opened not the doors of the parlour; therefore they took a key, and opened *them*: and, behold, their lord *was* fallen down dead on the earth.

26 And Ehud escaped while they tarried, and passed beyond the quarries, and escaped unto Seirath.

27 And it came to pass, when he was come, that he blew a trumpet in the mountain of Ephraim, and the children of Israel went down with him from the mount, and he before them.

28 And he said unto them, Follow after me: for the LORD hath delivered your enemies the Moabites into your hand. And they went down after him, and took the fords of Jordan toward Moab, and suffered not a man to pass over.

29 And they slew of Moab at that time about ten thousand men, all lusty, and all men of valour: and there escaped not a man.

30 So Moab was subdued that day under the hand of Israel. And the land had rest fourscore years.

31 ¶ And after him was Shamgar the son of Anath, which slew of the Philistines six hundred men with an ox goad: and he also delivered Israel.

Chapter 4

1 Deborah and Barak deliver them from Jabin and Sisera. 18 Jael killeth Sisera.

IND the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the LORD, when Ehud was dead.

2 And the LORD sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, that reigned in Hazor; the captain of whose host *was* Sisera, which dwelt in Harosheth of the Gentiles.

3 And the children of Israel cried unto the LORD: for he had nine hundred chariots of iron; and twenty years he mightily oppressed the children of Israel.

4 ¶ And Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lapidoth, she judged Israel at that time.

5 And she dwelt under the palm-tree of Deborah between Ramah and Beth-el in mount Ephraim: and the children of Israel came up to her for judgment.

6 And she sent and called Barak the son of Abinoam out of Kedesh-naphtali, and said unto him, Hath not the LORD God of Israel commanded, *saying*, Go and draw toward mount Tabor, and take with thee ten thousand men of the children of Naphtali and of the children of Zebulun?

7 And I will draw unto thee to the river Kishon, Sisera, the captain of Jabin's army, with his chariots and his multitude; and I will deliver him into thine hand.

8 And Barak said unto her, If thou wilt go with me, then I will go: but if thou wilt not go with me, *then* I will not go.

9 And she said, I will surely go with thee: notwithstanding the journey that thou takest shall not be for thine honour; for the LORD shall sell Sisera into the hand of a woman. And Deborah arose, and went with Barak to Kedesh.

10 ¶ And Barak called Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh; and he went up with ten thousand men at his feet: and Deborah went up with him.

11 Now Heber the Kenite, *which was* of the children of Hobab the father-in-law of Moses, had severed himself from the Kenites, and pitched his tent unto the plain of Zaanaim, *which is* by Kedesh.

12 And they shewed Sisera that Barak the son of Abinoam was gone up to mount Tabor.

13 And Sisera gathered together all his chariots, *even* nine hundred

chariots of iron, and all the people that *were* with him, from Harosheth of the Gentiles unto the river of Kishon.

14 And Deborah said unto Barak, Up; for this *is* the day in which the LORD hath delivered Sisera into thine hand: is not the LORD gone out before thee? So Barak went down from mount Tabor and ten thousand men after him.

15 And the LORD discomfited Sisera, and all *his* chariots, and all *his* host, with the edge of the sword before Barak; so that Sisera lighted down off *his* chariot, and fled away on his feet.

16 But Barak pursued after the chariots, and after the host, unto Harosheth of the Gentiles: and all the host of Sisera fell upon the edge of the sword; *and* there was not a man left.

17 Howbeit Sisera fled away on his feet to the tent of Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite: for *there was* peace between Jabin the king of Hazor and the house of Heber the Kenite.

18 ¶ And Jael went out to meet Sisera, and said unto him, Turn in my lord, turn in to me; fear not. And when he had turned in unto her into the tent, she covered him with a mantle.

19 And he said unto her, Give me, I pray thee, a little water to drink; for I am thirsty. And she opened a bottle of milk, and gave him drink, and covered him.

20 Again he said unto her, Stand in the door of the tent, and it shall be, when any man doth come and inquire of thee, and say, Is there any man here? that thou shalt say, No.

21 Then Jael, Heber's wife, took a nail of the tent, and took an hammer in her hand, and went softly unto him, and smote the nail into his temples, and fastened it into the ground: for he was fast asleep and weary. So he died.

22 And, behold, as Barak pursued Sisera, Jael came out to meet him, and said unto him, Come, and I will shew thee the man whom thou seekest. And when he came into her *tent*, behold, Sisera lay dead, and the nail *was* in his temples.

23 So God subdued on that day Jabin the king of Canaan before the children of Israel.

24 And the hand of the children of Israel prospered, and prevailed against Jabin the king of Canaan, until they had destroyed Jabin king of Canaan.

Chapter 5

The song of Deborah and Barak.



HEN sang Deborah and Barak the son of Abinoam on that day, saying,

2 Praise ye the LORD for the avenging of Israel, when the people willingly offered themselves.¹

¹This chapter except for the first verse and the final sentence is given in the Revised Version as a poetic chant.

3 Hear, O ye kings; give ear, O ye princes; I, *even* I, will sing unto the LORD; I will sing *praise* to the LORD God of Israel.

4 LORD, when thou wentest out of Seir, when thou marchedst out of the field of Edom, the earth trembled, and the heavens dropped, the clouds also dropped water.

5 The mountains melted from before the LORD, *even* that Sinai from before the LORD God of Israel.

6 In the days of Shamgar the son of Anath, in the days of Jael, the highways were unoccupied, and the travellers walked through byways.

7 *The inhabitants of* the villages ceased,¹ they ceased in Israel, until that I Deborah arose, that I arose a mother in Israel.

8 They chose new gods; then *was* war in the gates: was there a shield or spear seen among forty thousand in Israel?

9 My heart *is* toward the governors of Israel, that offered themselves willingly among the people. Bless ye the LORD.

10 Speak, ye that ride on white asses, ye that sit in judgment, and walk by the way.

11 *They that are delivered* from the noise of archers in the places of drawing water, there shall they rehearse the righteous acts of the LORD, *even* the righteous acts *toward the inhabitants* of his villages in Israel; then shall the people of the LORD go down to the gates.

12 Awake, awake, Deborah: awake, awake, utter a song: arise, Barak, and lead thy captivity captive, thou son of Abinoam.

13 Then he made him that remaineth have dominion over the nobles among the people: the LORD made me have dominion over the mighty.

14 Out of Ephraim *was there* a root of them against Amalek; after thee, Benjamin, among thy people; out of Machir came down governors, and out of Zebulun they that handle the pen of the writer.

15 And the princes of Issachar, *were* with Deborah; even Issachar, and also Barak: he was sent on foot into the valley. For the divisions of Reuben *there were* great thoughts of heart.

16 Why abodest thou among the sheepfolds, to hear the bleatings of the flocks? For the divisions of Reuben *there were* great searchings of heart.

17 Gilead abode beyond Jordan: and why did Dan remain in ships? Asher continued on the sea shore, and abode in his breaches.

18 Zebulun and Naphtali *were* a people *that* jeopardized their lives unto the death in the high places of the field.

19 The kings came *and* fought, then fought the kings of Canaan in Taanach by the waters of Megiddo; they took no gain of money.

20 They fought from heaven; the stars in their courses fought against Sisera.

¹The Revised Version says, "The rulers ceased in Israel, they ceased."

21 The river of Kishon swept them away, that ancient river, the river Kishon. O my soul, thou has trodden down strength.

22 Then were the horsehoofs broken by the means of the prancings, the prancings of their mighty ones.

23 Curse ye Meroz, said the angel of the LORD, curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof; because they came not to the help of the LORD, to the help of the LORD against the mighty.

24 Blessed above women shall Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite be, blessed shall she be above women in the tent.

25 He asked water, *and* she gave *him* milk; she brought forth butter in a lordly dish.

26 She put her hand to the nail, and her right hand to the workmen's hammer; and with the hammer she smote Sisera, she smote off his head, when she had pierced and stricken through his temples.

27 At her feet he bowed, he fell, he lay down: at her feet he bowed, he fell: where he bowed, there he fell down dead.

28 The mother of Sisera looked out at a window, and cried through the lattice, Why is his chariot *so* long in coming? why tarry the wheels of his chariots?

29 Her wise ladies answered her, yea, she returned answer to herself,

30 Have they not sped? have they *not* divided the prey; to every man a damsel *or* two; to Sisera a prey of divers colours, a prey of divers colours of needlework, of divers colours of needlework on both sides, *meet* for the necks of *them that take* the spoil?

31 So let all thine enemies perish, O Lord: but *let* them that love him *be* as the sun when he goeth forth in his might. And the land had rest forty years.

Chapter 6

1 The Israelites for their sin are oppressed by Midian. 8 A prophet rebuketh them. 11 An angel sendeth Gideon for their deliverance. 17 Gideon's present is consumed with fire. 25 Gideon destroyeth Baal's altar, and offereth a sacrifice upon the altar Jehovah-shalom. 28 Joash defendeth his son, and calleth him Jerubbaal. 33 Gideon's army. 36 Gideon's signs.

AND the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD: and the LORD delivered them into the hand of Midian seven years.

2 And the hand of Midian prevailed against Israel: *and* because of the Midianites the children of Israel made them the dens which *are* in the mountains, and caves, and strongholds.

3 And *so* it was, when Israel had sown, that the Midianites came up, and the Amalekites, and the children of the east, even they came up against them;

4 And they encamped against them, and destroyed the increase of the earth, till thou come unto Gaza, and left no sustenance for Israel, neither sheep, nor ox, nor ass.

5 For they came up with their cattle and their tents, and they came as grasshoppers for multitude; *for* both they and their camels were without number: and they entered into the land to destroy it.

6 And Israel was greatly impoverished because of the Midianites; and the children of Israel cried unto the LORD.

7 ¶ And it came to pass, when the children of Israel cried unto the LORD because of the Midianites,

8 That the LORD sent a prophet unto the children of Israel, which said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I brought you up from Egypt, and brought you forth out of the house of bondage;

9 And I delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all that oppressed you, and drave them out from before you, and gave you their land;

10 And I said unto you, I *am* the LORD your God; fear not the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but ye have not obeyed my voice.

11 ¶ And there came an angel of the LORD, and sat under an oak which *was* in Ophrah, that *pertained* unto Joash the Abi-ezrite: and his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide *it* from the Midianites.

12 And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him, and said unto him, The LORD *is* with thee, thou mighty man of valour.

13 And Gideon said unto him, Oh my Lord, if the LORD be with us, why then is all this befallen us? and where *be* all his miracles which our fathers told us of, saying, Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt? but now the LORD hath forsaken us, and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites.

14 And the LORD looked upon him, and said, Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee?

15 And he said unto him, Oh my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel? behold, my family *is* poor in Manasseh, and I *am* the least in my father's house.

16 And the LORD said unto him, Surely I will be with thee, and thou shalt smite the Midianites as one man.

17 And he said unto him, If now I have found grace in thy sight, then shew me a sign that thou talkest with me.

18 Depart not hence, I pray thee, until I come unto thee, and bring forth my present, and set *it* before thee. And he said, I will tarry until thou come again.

19 ¶ And Gideon went in, and made ready a kid, and unleavened cakes of an ephah of flour: the flesh he put in a basket, and he put the broth in a pot, and brought *it* out unto him under the oak, and presented *it*.

20 And the angel of God said unto him, Take the flesh and the

unleavened cakes, and lay *them* upon this rock, and pour out the broth. And he did so.

21 ¶ Then the angel of the LORD put forth the end of the staff that *was* in his hand, and touched the flesh and the unleavened cakes; and there rose up fire out of the rock, and consumed the flesh and the unleavened cakes. Then the angel of the LORD departed out of his sight.

22 And when Gideon perceived that he *was* an angel of the LORD, Gideon said, Alas, O Lord GOD! for because I have seen an angel of the LORD face to face.

23 And the LORD said unto him, Peace *be* unto thee; fear not: thou shalt not die.

24 Then Gideon built an altar there unto the LORD, and called it Jehovah-shalom: unto this day it *is* yet in Ophrah of the Abi-ezrites.

25 ¶ And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD said unto him, Take thy father's young bullock, even the second bullock of seven years old, and throw down the altar of Baal that thy father hath, and cut down the grove that *is* by it:

26 And build an altar unto the LORD thy God upon the top of this rock, in the ordered place, and take the second bullock, and offer a burnt sacrifice with the wood of the grove which thou shalt cut down.

27 Then Gideon took ten men of his servants, and did as the LORD had said unto him: and *so* it was, because he feared his father's household, and the men of the city, that he could not do *it* by day, that he did *it* by night.

28 ¶ And when the men of the city arose early in the morning, behold, the altar of Baal was cast down, and the grove was cut down that *was* by it, and the second bullock was offered upon the altar that *was* built.

29 And they said one to another, Who hath done this thing? And when they inquired and asked, they said, Gideon the son of Joash hath done this thing.

30 Then the men of the city said unto Joash, Bring out thy son, that he may die: because he hath cast down the altar of Baal, and because he hath cut down the grove that *was* by it.

31 And Joash said unto all that stood against him, Will ye plead for Baal? will ye save him? he that will plead for him, let him be put to death whilst *it is yet* morning: if he *be* a god let him plead for himself, because *one* hath cast down his altar.

32 Therefore on that day he called him Jerubbaal, saying, Let Baal plead against him, because he hath thrown down his altar.

33 ¶ Then all the Midianites and the Amalekites and the children of the east were gathered together, and went over, and pitched in the valley of Jezreel.

34 But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon, and he blew a trumpet; and Abi-ezer was gathered after him.

35 And he sent messengers throughout all Manasseh; who also was gathered after him: and he sent messengers unto Asher, and unto Zebulun, and unto Naphtali; and they came up to meet them.

36 ¶ And Gideon said unto God, If thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said,

37 Behold, I will put a fleece of wool in the floor; *and* if the dew be on the fleece only, and *it be* dry upon all the earth *beside*, then shall I know that thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said.

38 And it was so: for he rose up early on the morrow, and thrust the fleece together, and wringed the dew out of the fleece, a bowl full of water.

39 And Gideon said unto God, Let not thine anger be hot against me, and I will speak but this once: let me prove, I pray thee, but this once with the fleece; let it now be dry only upon the fleece, and upon all the ground let there be dew.

40 And God did so that night: for it was dry upon the fleece only, and there was dew on all the ground.

Chapter 7

1 Gideon's army of two and thirty thousand is brought to three hundred. 9 He is encouraged by the dream and interpretation of the barley cake. 16 His stratagem of trumpets and lamps in pitchers. 24 The Ephraimites take Oreb and Zeb.



WHEN Jerubbaal, who *is* Gideon, and all the people that *were* with him, rose up early, and pitched beside the well of Harod: so that the host of the Midianites were on the north side of them, by the hill of Moreh, in the valley.

2 And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people that *are* with thee *are* too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me.

3 Now therefore go to, proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, Whosoever *is* fearful and afraid, let him return and depart early from mount Gilead. And there returned of the people twenty and two thousand; and there remained ten thousand.

4 And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people *are* yet *too* many; bring them down unto the water, and I will try them for thee there: and it shall be, *that* of whom I say unto thee, This shall go with thee, the same shall go with thee; and of whomsoever I say unto thee, This shall not go with thee, the same shall not go.

5 So he brought down the people unto the water: and the LORD said unto Gideon, Every one that lappeth of the water with his tongue, as a dog lappeth, him shalt thou set by himself; likewise every one that boweth down upon his knees to drink.

6 And the number of them that lapped, *putting* their hand to their mouth, were three hundred men: but all the rest of the people bowed down upon their knees to drink water.

7 And the LORD said unto Gideon, By the three hundred men that lapped will I save you, and deliver the Midianites into thine hand: and let all the *other* people go every man unto his place.

8 So the people took victuals in their hand, and their trumpets: and he sent all *the rest of* Israel every man unto his tent, and retained those three hundred men: and the host of Midian was beneath him in the valley.

9 ¶ And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD said unto him, Arise, get thee down unto the host; for I have delivered it into thine hand.

10 But if thou fear to go down, go thou with Phurah thy servant down to the host:

11 And thou shalt hear what they say; and afterward shall thine hands be strengthened to go down unto the host. Then went he with Phurah his servant unto the outside of the armed men that *were* in the host.

12 And the Midianites and the Amalekites and all the children of the east lay along in the valley like grasshoppers for multitude; and their camels *were* without number, as the sand by the sea side for multitude.

13 And when Gideon was come, behold, *there was* a man that told a dream unto his fellow, and said, Behold, I dreamed a dream, and, lo, a cake of barley bread tumbled into the host of Midian, and came unto a tent, and smote it that it fell, and overturned it, that the tent lay along.

14 And his fellow answered and said, This *is* nothing else save the sword of Gideon the son of Joash, a man of Israel: *for* into his hand hath God delivered Midian, and all the host.

15 ¶ And it was *so*, when Gideon heard the telling of the dream, and the interpretation thereof, that he worshipped, and returned into the host of Israel, and said, Arise; for the LORD hath delivered into your hand the host of Midian.

16 And he divided the three hundred men *into* three companies, and he put a trumpet in every man's hand, with empty pitchers, and lamps¹ within the pitchers.

17 And he said unto them, Look on me, and do likewise; and, behold, when I come to the outside of the camp, it shall be *that*, as I do, so shall ye do.

18 When I blow with a trumpet, I and all that *are* with me, then blow ye the trumpets also on every side of all the camp, and say, *The sword of the LORD*, and of Gideon.

19 ¶ So Gideon, and the hundred men that *were* with him, came

¹Throughout this chapter "lamps" is changed to "torches" in the Revised Version.

unto the outside of the camp in the beginning of the middle watch; and they had but newly set the watch: and they blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers that *were* in their hands.

20 And the three companies blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers, and held the lamps in their left hands, and the trumpets in their right hands, to blow *withal*: and they cried, The sword of the LORD, and of Gideon.

21 And they stood every man in his place round about the camp: and all the host ran, and cried, and fled.

22 And the three hundred blew the trumpets, and the LORD set every man's sword against his fellow, even throughout all the host: and the host fled to Beth-shittah in Zererath, *and* to the border of Abel-meholah, unto Tabbath.

23 And the host of Israel gathered themselves together out of Naphtali, and out of Asher, and out of all Manasseh, and pursued after the Midianites.

24 ¶ And Gideon sent messengers throughout all mount Ephraim, saying, Come down against the Midianites, and take before them the waters¹ unto Beth-barah and Jordan. Then all the men of Ephraim gathered themselves together, and took the waters unto Beth-barah and Jordan.

25 And they took two princes of the Midianites, Oreb and Zeeb; and they slew Oreb upon the rock Oreb, and Zeeb they slew at the winepress of Zeeb, and pursued Midian, and brought the heads of Oreb and Zeeb to Gideon on the other side Jordan.

Chapter 8

1 Gideon pacifieth the Ephraimites. 4 Succoth and Penuel refuse to relieve Gideon's army. 10 Zebah and Zalmunna are taken. 13 Succoth and Penuel are destroyed. 18 Gideon revengeth his brethren's death on Zebah and Zalmunna. 22 He refuseth government. 24 His ephod cause of idolatry. 28 Midian subdued. 29 Gideon's children, and death. 33 The Israelites' idolatry and ingratitude.

AND the men of Ephraim said unto him, Why hast thou served us thus, that thou calledst us not, when thou wentest to fight with the Midianites? And they did chide with him sharply.

2 And he said unto them. What have I done now in comparison of you? *Is* not the gleanings of the grapes of Ephraim better than the vintage of Abi-ezer?²

3 God hath delivered into your hands the princes of Midian, Oreb and Zeeb: and what was I able to do in comparison of you? Then their anger was abated toward him, when he had said that.

4 ¶ And Gideon came to Jordan, *and* passed over, he, and the three hundred men that *were* with him, faint, yet pursuing *them*.

5 And he said unto the men of Succoth, Give, I pray you, loaves

¹The meaning is that the Ephraimites were to "take" or guard the fords, so that no Midianite could cross in flight. ²The meaning is that Ephraim had done greater things than Gideon's people in capturing the two princes of Midian.

of bread unto the people that follow me; for they *be* faint, and I am pursuing after Zebah and Zalmunna, kings of Midian.

6 ¶ And the princes of Succoth said, *Are* the hands of Zebah and Zalmunna now in thine hand, that we should give bread unto thine army?

7 And Gideon said, Therefore when the LORD hath delivered Zebah and Zalmunna into mine hand, then I will tear your flesh with the thorns of the wilderness and with briers.

8 ¶ And he went up thence to Penuel, and spake unto them likewise: and the men of Penuel answered him as the men of Succoth had answered *him*.

9 And he spake also unto the men of Penuel, saying, When I come again in peace, I will break down this tower.

10 ¶ Now Zebah and Zalmunna *were* in Karkor, and their hosts with them, about fifteen thousand *men*, all that were left of all the hosts of the children of the east: for there fell an hundred and twenty thousand men that drew sword.

11 ¶ And Gideon went up by the way of them that dwelt in tents on the east of Nobah and Jogbehah, and smote the host: for the host was secure.

12 And when Zebah and Zalmunna fled, he pursued after them, and took the two kings of Midian, Zebah and Zalmunna, and discomfited all the host.

13 ¶ And Gideon the son of Joash returned from battle before the sun *was up*,

14 And caught a young man of the men of Succoth, and inquired of him: and he described unto him the princes of Succoth, and the elders thereof, *even* threescore and seventeen men.

15 And he came unto the men of Succoth, and said, Behold Zebah and Zalmunna, with whom ye did upbraid me, saying, *Are* the hands of Zebah and Zalmunna now in thine hand, that we should give bread unto thy men *that are weary*?

16 And he took the elders of the city, and thorns of the wilderness and briers, and with them he taunted the men of Succoth.

17 And he beat down the tower of Penuel, and slew the men of the city.

18 ¶ Then said he unto Zebah and Zalmunna, What manner of men *were they* whom ye slew at Tabor? And they answered, As thou art, so *were* they; each one resembled the children of a king.

19 And he said, They *were* my brethren, *even* the sons of my mother: as the LORD liveth, if ye had saved them alive, I would not slay you.

20 And he said unto Jether his firstborn, Up, *and* slay them. But the youth drew not his sword: for he feared, because he *was* yet a youth.

21 Then Zebah and Zalmunna said, Rise thou, and fall upon us: for as the man *is*, so *is* his strength. And Gideon arose, and slew Zebah and Zalmunna, and took away the ornaments that *were* on their camels' necks.

22 ¶ Then the men of Israel said unto Gideon, Rule thou over us, both thou, and thy son, and thy son's son also; for thou hast delivered us from the hand of Midian.

23 And Gideon said unto them, I will not rule over you, neither shall my son rule over you: the LORD shall rule over you.

24 ¶ And Gideon said unto them, I would desire a request of you, that ye would give me every man the earrings of his prey. (For they had golden earrings, because they *were* Ishmaelites.)

25 And they answered, We will willingly give *them*. And they spread a garment, and did cast therein every man the earrings of his prey.

26 And the weight of the golden earrings that he requested was a thousand and seven hundred *shekels* of gold; beside ornaments, and collars, and purple raiment that *was* on the kings of Midian, and beside the chains that *were* about their camels' necks.

27 And Gideon made an ephod¹ thereof, and put it in his city, *even* in Ophrah: and all Israel went thither a whoring after it: which thing became a snare unto Gideon, and to his house.

28 ¶ Thus was Midian subdued before the children of Israel, so that they lifted up their heads no more. And the country was in quietness forty years in the days of Gideon.

29 ¶ And Jerubbaal the son of Joash went and dwelt in his own house.

30 And Gideon had threescore and ten sons of his body begotten: for he had many wives.

31 And his concubine that *was* in Shechem, she also bare him a son, whose name he called Abimelech.

32 ¶ And Gideon the son of Joash died in a good old age, and was buried in the sepulchre of Joash his father, in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.

33 And it came to pass, as soon as Gideon was dead, that the children of Israel turned again, and went a whoring after Baalim, and made Baal-berith their god.

34 And the children of Israel remembered not the LORD their God, who had delivered them out of the hands of all their enemies on every side:

35 Neither shewed they kindness to the house of Jerubbaal, *namely*, Gideon, according to all the goodness which he had shewed unto Israel.

¹The ephod usually means a garment or covering worn by the priests. But in this and a few similar passages it seems to have been a covering or plating of metal placed upon an idol or worshipped as an idol.

Chapter 9

1 Abimelech by conspiracy with the Shechemites, and murder of his brethren, is made king. 7 Jotham by a parable rebuketh them, and fortelleth their ruin. 22 Gaal conspireth with the Shechemites against him. 30 Zebul revealeth it. 34 Abimelech overcometh them, and soweth the city with salt. 46 He burneth the hold of the god Berith. 50 At Thebez he is slain by a piece of a millstone. 56 Jotham's curse is fulfilled.

AND Abimelech the son of Jerubbaal went to Shechem unto his mother's brethren, and communed with them, and with all the family of the house of his mother's father, saying,

2 Speak, I pray you, in the ears of all the men of Shechem, Whether *is* better for you, either that all the sons of Jerubbaal, *which are* threescore and ten persons, reign over you, or that one reign over you? remember also that I *am* your bone and your flesh.

3 And his mother's brethren spake of him in the ears of all the men of Shechem all these words: and their hearts inclined to follow Abimelech; for they said, He *is* our brother.

4 And they gave him threescore and ten *pieces* of silver out of the house of Baal-berith, wherewith Abimelech hired vain and light persons, which followed him.

5 And he went unto his father's house at Ophrah, and slew his brethren the sons of Jerubbaal, *being* threescore and ten persons, upon one stone: notwithstanding yet Jotham the youngest son of Jerubbaal was left; for he hid himself.

6 And all the men of Shechem gathered together, and all the house of Millo, and went, and made Abimelech king, by the plain of the pillar that *was* in Shechem.

7 ¶ And when they told *it* to Jotham, he went and stood in the top of mount Gerizim, and lifted up his voice, and cried, and said unto them, Harken unto me, ye men of Shechem, that God may hearken unto you.

8 The trees went forth *on a time* to ancient a king over them; and they said unto the olive tree, Reign thou over us.

9 But the olive tree said unto them, Should I leave my fatness, wherewith by me they honour God and man, and go to be promoted over the trees?

10 And the trees said to the fig tree, Come thou, *and* reign over us.

11 But the fig tree said unto them, Should I forsake my sweetness, and my good fruit, and go to be promoted over the trees?

12 Then said the trees unto the vine, Come thou, *and* reign over us.

13 And the vine said unto them, Should I leave my wine, which cheereth God and man, and go to be promoted over the trees?

14 Then said all the trees unto the bramble, Come thou, *and* reign over us.

15 And the bramble said unto the trees, If in truth ye anoint me king over you, *then* come *and* put your trust in my shadow: and if not, let fire come out of the bramble, and devour the cedars of Lebanon.

16 Now therefore, if ye have done truly and sincerely, in that ye

have made Abimelech king, and if ye have dealt well with Jerubbaal and his house, and have done unto him according to the deserving of his hands;

17 (For my father fought for you, and adventured his life far, and delivered you out of the hand of Midian:

18 And ye are risen up against my father's house this day, and have slain his sons, threescore and ten persons, upon one stone, and have made Abimelech, the son of his maidservant, king over the men of Shechem, because he *is* your brother:)

19 If ye then have dealt truly and sincerely with Jerubbaal and with his house this day, *then* rejoice ye in Abimelech, and let him also rejoice in you:

20 But if not, let fire come out from Abimelech, and devour the men of Shechem, and the house of Millo; and let fire come out from the men of Shechem, and from the house of Millo, and devour Abimelech.

21 And Jotham ran away, and fled, and went to Beer, and dwelt there, for fear of Abimelech his brother.

22 ¶ When Abimelech had reigned three years over Israel,

23 Then God sent an evil spirit between Abimelech and the men of Shechem; and the men of Shechem dealt treacherously with Abimelech:

24 That the cruelty *done* to the threescore and ten sons of Jerubbaal might come, and their blood he laid upon Abimelech their brother, which slew them; and upon the men of Shechem, which aided him in the killing of his brethren.

25 And the men of Shechem set liers in wait for him in the top of the mountains, and they robbed all that came along that way by them: and it was told Abimelech.

26 And Gaal the son of Ebed came with his brethren, and went over to Shechem: and the men of Shechem put their confidence in him.

27 And they went out into the fields, and gathered their vineyards, and trode *the grapes*, and made merry, and went into the house of their god, and did eat and drink, and cursed Abimelech.

28 And Gaal the son of Ebed said, Who *is* Abimelech, and who *is* Shechem, that we should serve him? *is* not *he* the son of Jerubbaal? and Zebul his officer? serve the men of Hamor the father of Shechem: for why should we serve him?

29 And would to God this people were under my hand! then would I remove Abimelech. And he said to Abimelech, Increase thine army, and come out.

30 ¶ And when Zebul the ruler of the city heard the words of Gaal the son of Ebed, his anger was kindled.

31 And he sent messengers unto Abimelech privily, saying, Be-

hold, Gaal the son of Ebed and his brethren be come to Shechem; and, behold, they fortify the city against thee.

32 Now therefore up by night, thou and the people that *is* with thee, and lie in wait in the field:

33 And it shall be, *that* in the morning, as soon as the sun is up, thou shalt rise early, and set upon the city: and, behold, *when* he and the people that *is* with him come out against thee, then mayest thou do to them as thou shalt find occasion.

34 ¶ And Abimelech rose up, and all the people that *were* with him, by night, and they laid wait against Shechem in four companies.

35 And Gaal the son of Ebed went out, and stood in the entering of the gate of the city: and Abimelech rose up, and the people that *were* with him, from lying in wait.

36 And when Gaal saw the people, he said to Zebul, Behold, there come people down from the top of the mountains. And Zebul said unto him, Thou seest the shadow of the mountains as *if they were* men.

37 And Gaal spake again and said, See there come people down by the middle of the land, and another company come along by the plain of Meonenim.

38 Then said Zebul unto him, Where *is* now thy mouth, wherewith thou saidst, Who *is* Abimelech, that we should serve him? *is* not this the people that thou hast despised? go out, I pray now, and fight with them.

39 And Gaal went out before the men of Shechem, and fought with Abimelech.

40 And Abimelech chased him, and he fled before him, and many were overthrown *and* wounded, *even* unto the entering of the gate.

41 And Abimelech dwelt at Arumah: and Zebul thrust out Gaal and his brethren, that they should not dwell in Shechem.

42 And it came to pass on the morrow, that the people went out into the field; and they told Abimelech.

43 And he took the people, and divided them into three companies, and laid wait in the field, and looked, and, behold, the people *were* come forth out of the city; and he rose up against them, and smote them.

44 And Abimelech, and the company that *was* with him, rushed forward, and stood in the entering of the gate of the city: and the two *other* companies ran upon all *the people* that *were* in the fields, and slew them.

45 And Abimelech fought against the city all that day; and he took the city, and slew the people that *was* therein, and beat down the city, and sowed it with salt.

46 ¶ And when all the men of the tower of Shechem heard *that*, they entered into an hold of the house of the god Berith.

47 And it was told Abimelech, that all the men of the tower of Shechem were gathered together.

48 And Abimelech gat him up to mount Zalmon, he and all the people that *were* with him; and Abimelech took an axe in his hand, and cut down a bough from the trees, and took it, and laid *it* on his shoulder, and said unto the people that *were* with him, What ye have seen me do, make haste, *and* do as I *have* done.

49 And all the people likewise cut down every man his bough, and followed Abimelech, and put *them* to the hold, and set the hold on fire upon them; so that all the men of the tower of Shechem died also, about a thousand men and women.

50 ¶ Then went Abimelech to Thebez, and encamped against Thebez, and took it.

51 But there was a strong tower within the city, and thither fled all the men and women, and all they of the city, and shut *it* to them, and gat them up to the top of the tower.

52 And Abimelech came unto the tower, and fought against it, and went hard unto the door of the tower to burn it with fire.

53 And a certain woman cast a piece of a millstone upon Abimelech's head, and all to brake his skull.

54 Then he called hastily unto the young man his armourbearer, and said unto him, Draw thy sword, and slay me, that men say not of me, A woman slew him. And his young man thrust him through, and he died.

55 And when the men of Israel saw that Abimelech was dead, they departed every man unto his place.

56 ¶ Thus God rendered the wickedness of Abimelech, which he did unto his father, in slaying his seventy brethren:

57 And all the evil of the men of Shechem did God render upon their heads: and upon them came the curse of Jotham the son of Jerubbaal.

Chapter 10

1 Tola judgeth Israel in Shamir. 3 Jair, whose thirty sons had thirty cities. 6 The Philistines and Ammonites oppress Israel. 10 In their misery God sendeth them to their false gods. 15 Upon their repentance he pitieth them.

AND after Abimelech there arose to defend Israel Tola the son of Puah, the son of Dodo, a man of Issachar; and he dwelt in Shamir in mount Ephraim.

2 And he judged Israel twenty and three years, and died, and was buried in Shamir.

3 ¶ And after him arose Jair, a Gileadite, and judged Israel twenty and two years.

4 And he had thirty sons that rode on thirty ass colts, and they had thirty cities, which are called Havoth-jair unto this day, which *are* in the land of Gilead.

5 And Jair died, and was buried in Camon.

6 ¶ And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim, and Ashtaroath, and the gods of Syria, and the gods of Zidon, and the gods of Moab, and the gods of the children of Ammon, and the gods of the Philistines, and forsook the LORD, and served not him.

7 And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he sold them into the hands of the Philistines, and into the hands of the children of Ammon.

8 And that year they vexed and oppressed the children of Israel: eighteen years, all the children of Israel that *were* on the other side Jordan in the land of the Amorites, which *is* in Gilead.

9 Moreover the children of Ammon passed over Jordan to fight also against Judah, and against Benjamin, and against the house of Ephraim; so that Israel was sore distressed.

10 ¶ And the children of Israel cried unto the LORD, saying, We have sinned against thee, both because we have forsaken our God, and also served Baalim.

11 And the LORD said unto the children of Israel, *Did not I deliver you* from the Egyptians, and from the Amorites, from the children of Ammon, and from the Philistines?

12 The Zidonians also, and the Amalekites, and the Maonites did oppress you; and ye cried to me, and I delivered you out of their hand.

13 Yet ye have forsaken me, and served other gods: wherefore I will deliver you no more.

14 Go and cry unto the gods which ye have chosen; let them deliver you in the time of your tribulation.

15 ¶ And the children of Israel said unto the LORD, We have sinned: do thou unto us whatsoever seemeth good unto thee; deliver us only, we pray thee this day.

16 And they put away the strange gods from among them, and served the LORD: and his soul was grieved for the misery of Israel.

17 Then the children of Ammon were gathered together, and encamped in Gilead. And the children of Israel assembled themselves together, and encamped in Mizpeh.

18 And the people *and* princes of Gilead said one to another, What man *is he* that will begin to fight against the children of Ammon? he shall be head over all the inhabitants of Gilead.

Chapter 11

¹ The covenant between Jephthah and the Gileadites that he should be their head. ¹² The treaty of peace between him and the Ammonites is in vain. ²⁹ Jephthah's vow. ³² His conquest of the Ammonites. ³⁴ He performeth his vow on his daughter.



OW Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty man of valour, and he *was* the son of an harlot: and Gilead begat Jephthah.

2 And Gilead's wife bare him sons: and his wife's sons grew up, and they thrust out Jephthah, and said unto him, Thou

shalt not inherit in our father's house; for thou *art* the son of a strange woman.

3 Then Jephthah fled from his brethren, and dwelt in the land of Tob: and there were gathered vain men to Jephthah, and went out with him.

4 ¶ And it came to pass in process of time, that the children of Ammon made war against Israel.

5 And it was so, that when the children of Ammon made war against Israel, the elders of Gilead went to fetch Jephthah out of the land of Tob:

6 And they said unto Jephthah, Come, and be our captain, that we may fight with the children of Ammon.

7 And Jephthah said unto the elders of Gilead, Did not ye hate me, and expel me out of my father's house? and why are ye come unto me now when ye are in distress?

8 And the elders of Gilead said unto Jephthah, Therefore we turn again to thee now, that thou mayest go with us, and fight against the children of Ammon, and be our head over all the inhabitants of Gilead.

9 And Jephthah said unto the elders of Gilead, If ye bring me home again to fight against the children of Ammon, and the LORD deliver them before me, shall I be your head?

10 And the elders of Gilead said unto Jephthah, The LORD be witness between us, if we do not so according to thy words.

11 Then Jephthah went with the elders of Gilead, and the people made him head and captain over them: and Jephthah uttered all his words before the LORD in Mizpeh.

12 ¶ And Jephthah sent messengers unto the king of the children of Ammon, saying, What hast thou to do with me, that thou art come against me to fight in my land?

13 And the king of the children of Ammon answered unto the messengers of Jephthah, Because Israel took away my land, when they came up out of Egypt, from Arnon even unto Jabbok, and unto Jordan: now therefore restore those *lands* again peaceably.

14 And Jephthah sent messengers again unto the king of the children of Ammon:

15 And said unto him, Thus saith Jephthah, Israel took not away the land of Moab, nor the land of the children of Ammon:

16 But when Israel came up from Egypt, and walked through the wilderness unto the Red sea, and came to Kadesh;

17 Then Israel sent messengers unto the king of Edom, saying, Let me, I pray thee, pass through thy land: but the king of Edom would not hearken *thereto*. And in like manner they sent unto the king of Moab: but he would not *consent*: and Israel abode in Kadesh.

18 Then they went along through the wilderness, and compassed

THE recent marked revival of interest in the Bible makes the present work particularly timely, though its issue has been in preparation several years. It presents a new departure in Bible making, **THE LATEST AND MOST IMPORTANT IDEA** in spreading both the knowledge and the meaning of the Scriptures. Common sense tells us that the mind is taught mainly by the eye. Hence the Bible may best be learned through pictures. Our Sunday Schools are awakening to this fact and seeking everywhere for suitable illustrations. The present work meets this need. Not only does it contain the **MOST EXTENSIVE SERIES OF RELIGIOUS PICTURES** ever brought together in the world's history, but each subject has been selected with peculiar care both for its lesson and for its artistic worth. Each presents the work of **SOME GREAT PAINTER**, and each has been individually treated so as to secure the **BEST POSSIBLE RESULTS OF THE PLATE MAKERS' AND PRINTERS' ARTS**. Thus the work must prove not only profoundly impressive to children, but **A DELIGHT TO ART LOVERS** in general, and a source of information to every eye, **AN EASY AND ATTRACTIVE ROAD TO KNOWLEDGE**.

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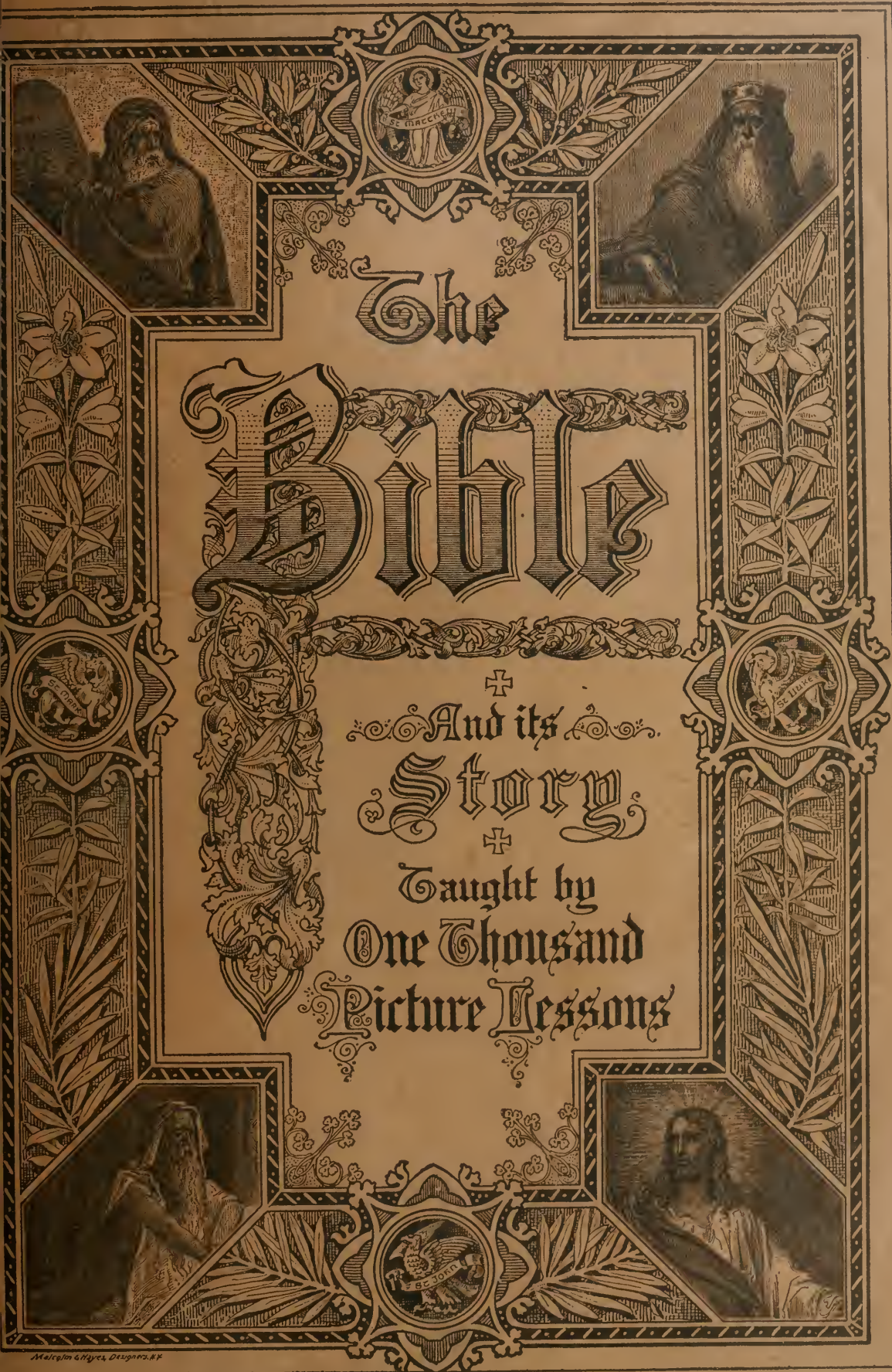
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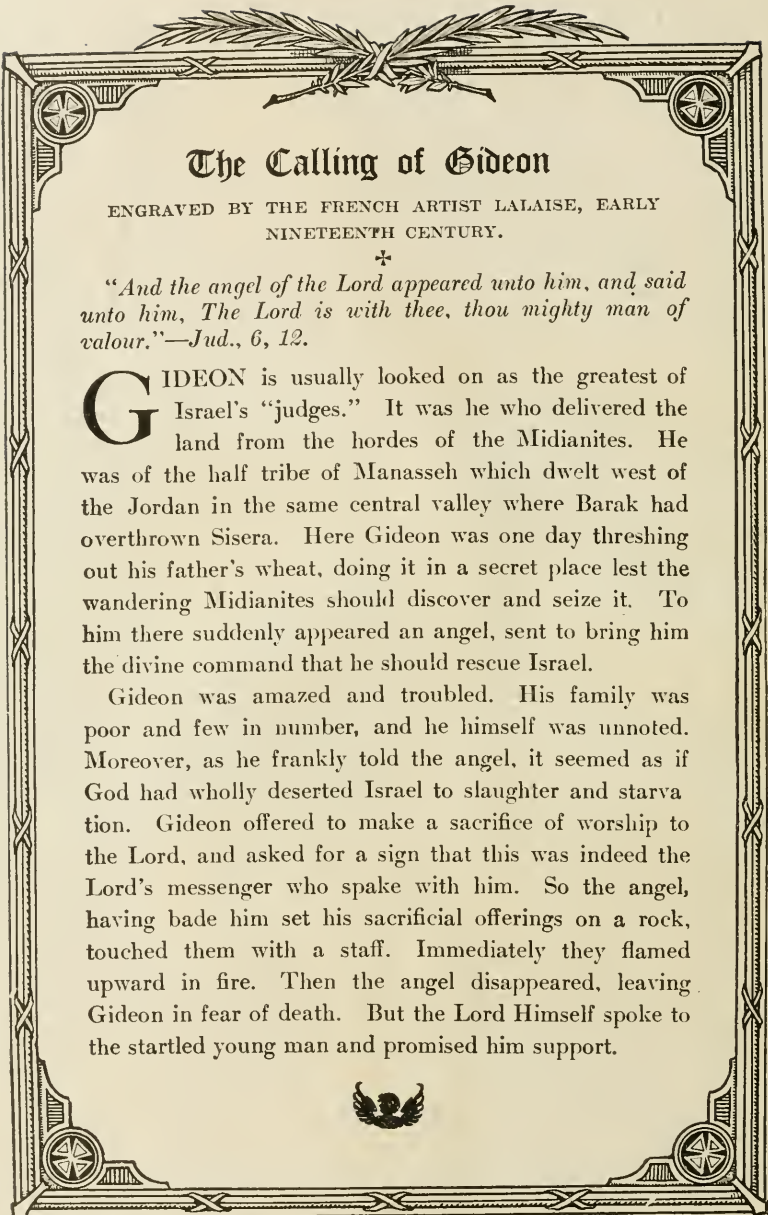
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The Calling of Gideon

ENGRAVED BY THE FRENCH ARTIST LALAISE, EARLY
NINETEENTH CENTURY.



"And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him, and said unto him, The Lord is with thee, thou mighty man of valour."—Jud., 6, 12.

GIDEON is usually looked on as the greatest of Israel's "judges." It was he who delivered the land from the hordes of the Midianites. He was of the half tribe of Manasseh which dwelt west of the Jordan in the same central valley where Barak had overthrown Sisera. Here Gideon was one day threshing out his father's wheat, doing it in a secret place lest the wandering Midianites should discover and seize it. To him there suddenly appeared an angel, sent to bring him the divine command that he should rescue Israel.

Gideon was amazed and troubled. His family was poor and few in number, and he himself was unnoted. Moreover, as he frankly told the angel, it seemed as if God had wholly deserted Israel to slaughter and starvation. Gideon offered to make a sacrifice of worship to the Lord, and asked for a sign that this was indeed the Lord's messenger who spake with him. So the angel, having bade him set his sacrificial offerings on a rock, touched them with a staff. Immediately they flamed upward in fire. Then the angel disappeared, leaving Gideon in fear of death. But the Lord Himself spoke to the startled young man and promised him support.





THE

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Gideon's Fleece

BY J. GOEREE, A DUTCH ARTIST OF THE SEVENTEENTH
CENTURY.



"He rose up early on the morrow, and thrust the fleece together, and wringed the dew out of the fleece, a bowl full of water."—Jud., 6, 38.

SO FAR had Israel forgotten God in Gideon's day, that the young hero's first efforts at rescuing the land were directed not against the Midianites, but against the people of his own city of Ophrah. The chief altar in Ophrah was dedicated not to the Lord but to Baal; and Gideon's father was its keeper. So Gideon took ten faithful servants of his own and, in the night, overthrew Baal's altar. In its place he erected one to God. Next morning the people of the city would have slain him; but his father pointed out that Baal had not even protected himself. Hence the people rather lost faith in Baal. Gideon became a man of note in the land and was called Jerubbaal, the enemy of Baal.

Then he summoned the people to join him against Midian. When however they responded in eager thousands, his earlier doubts returned to him; he did not want to lead all of these men to death. So he entreated God for another sign. He left a sheep's fleece on the ground all night, asking first that it should be wet while all the earth around was dry. The next night he asked that this be reversed. Both nights God did as Gideon had prayed. Hence full faith returned to the anxious leader.



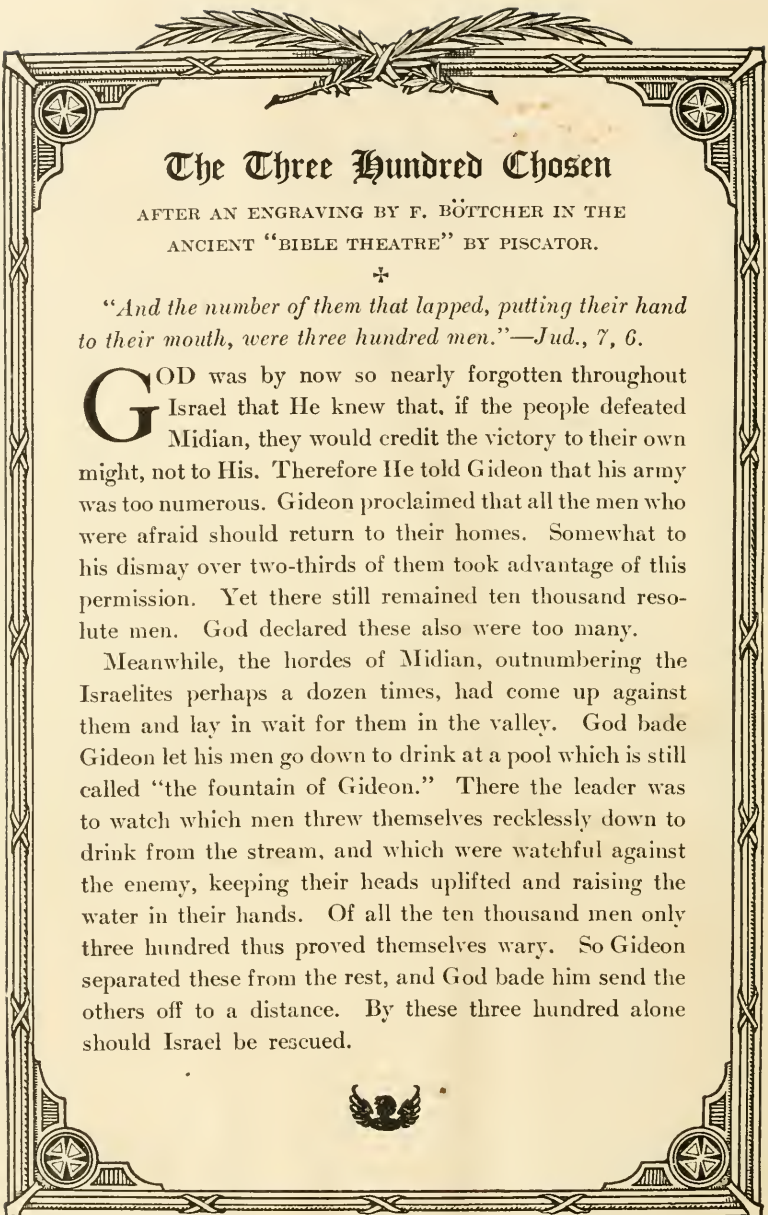


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The Three Hundred Chosen

AFTER AN ENGRAVING BY F. BÖTTCHER IN THE
ANCIENT "BIBLE THEATRE" BY PISCATOR.



"And the number of them that lapped, putting their hand to their mouth, were three hundred men."—Jud., 7, 6.

GOD was by now so nearly forgotten throughout Israel that He knew that, if the people defeated Midian, they would credit the victory to their own might, not to His. Therefore He told Gideon that his army was too numerous. Gideon proclaimed that all the men who were afraid should return to their homes. Somewhat to his dismay over two-thirds of them took advantage of this permission. Yet there still remained ten thousand resolute men. God declared these also were too many.

Meanwhile, the hordes of Midian, outnumbering the Israelites perhaps a dozen times, had come up against them and lay in wait for them in the valley. God bade Gideon let his men go down to drink at a pool which is still called "the fountain of Gideon." There the leader was to watch which men threw themselves recklessly down to drink from the stream, and which were watchful against the enemy, keeping their heads uplifted and raising the water in their hands. Of all the ten thousand men only three hundred thus proved themselves wary. So Gideon separated these from the rest, and God bade him send the others off to a distance. By these three hundred alone should Israel be rescued.







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The Night Surprise

BY G. VAN DER GOUWEN, AN ARTIST OF HOLLAND,
EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.



"And they cried, The sword of the Lord, and of Gideon."
—Jud., 7, 20.

GIDEON with his three hundred chosen followers was bidden by God to make a night attack upon the vast horde of Midianites. First, however, he went with a single follower to spy upon them in the darkness. He overheard one of the invaders telling his comrades of a dream which foreshadowed Midian's destruction. Thus encouraged, Gideon marshalled his men. They were not to fight. In three equal bands they surrounded the Midianite encampment. Each man had a trumpet and also a flaming light hidden in a pitcher. At a signal from Gideon, each man broke his pitcher and let the light shine forth; and as he did so he blew upon his trumpet, and then cried out with all his strength, "The sword of the Lord and of Gideon!"

The startled foes were thus aroused from sleep amid tremendous clamor. In their confusion they attacked one another, fighting desperately. The huge host destroyed itself. In its flight it was pursued by the Israelites, who gathered from every quarter, eager for revenge.





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Gideon Begs Food for His Men

BY J. JAMES TISSOT. REPRODUCED BY THE COURTESY
OF THE AMERICAN TISSOT SOCIETY OF NEW YORK.



"And he said unto the men of Succoth, Give, I pray you, loaves of bread unto the people that follow me."—Jud., 8, 5.

GIDEON was resolved that the Midianites should be so punished that never again would they venture to invade Israel. Therefore he pursued them rigorously with his chosen three hundred, always slaying, slaying. He sent word to the tribe of Ephraim to guard the fords of the Jordan; and they did so and made a great slaughter of the Midianites there. Of one hundred and thirty thousand invaders only fifteen thousand escaped across the Jordan. Gideon followed them.

Yet the new leader had many difficulties to encounter, even from his own people. The men of Ephraim came near to attacking him because he had not left the leadership with them, the wardens of the sanctuary, Israel's chief tribe. When he had crossed Jordan with his wearied band, he could get no food for them. He appealed to one city after another there, cities of the tribe of Gad, begging not for men but only for bread. Such was the people's fear of the Midianites that they refused him. They jeered at the thought of his exhausted three hundred attacking the still numerous thousands of the foe. Only Gideon's courage and high faith in God carried him and his devoted band onward in their pursuit.





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THE HISTORY OF THE

REIGN OF

CHARLES THE FIRST

BY

JOHN BURNET

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

IN TWO VOLUMES

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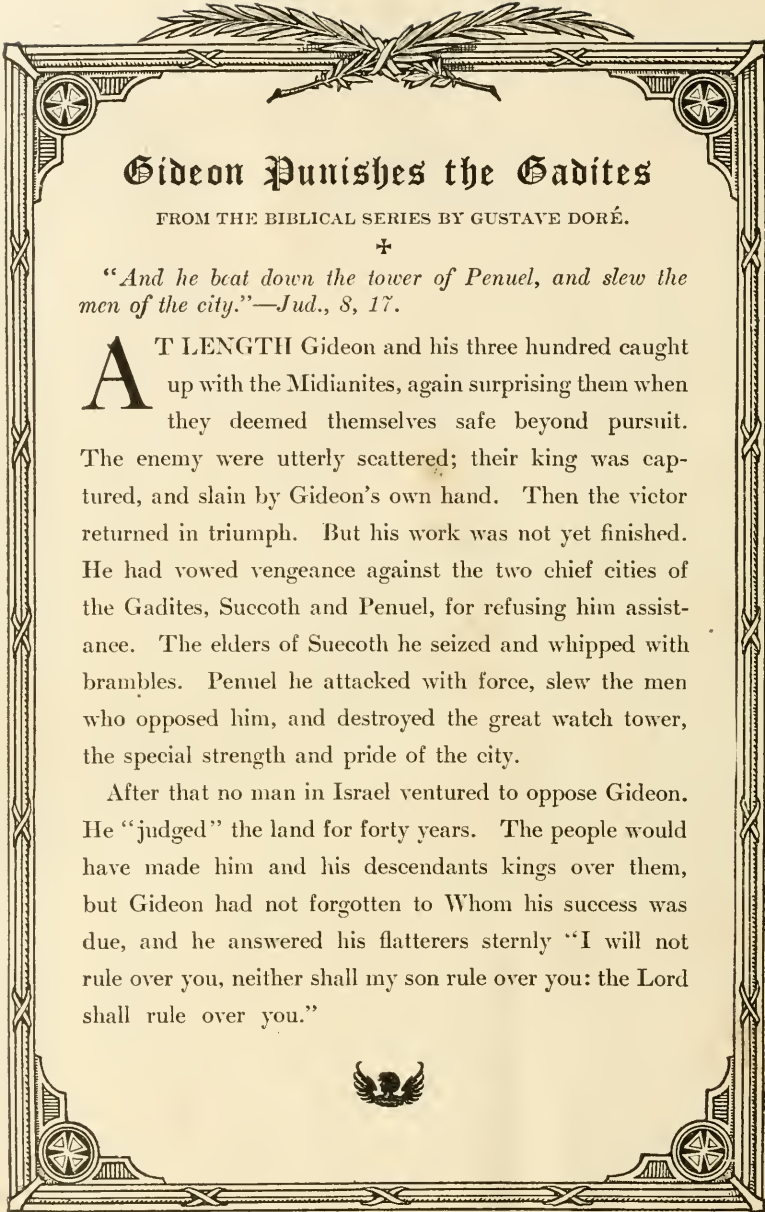
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Gideon Punishes the Gadites

FROM THE BIBLICAL SERIES BY GUSTAVE DORÉ.



"And he beat down the tower of Penuel, and slew the men of the city."—Jud., 8, 17.

AT LENGTH Gideon and his three hundred caught up with the Midianites, again surprising them when they deemed themselves safe beyond pursuit. The enemy were utterly scattered; their king was captured, and slain by Gideon's own hand. Then the victor returned in triumph. But his work was not yet finished. He had vowed vengeance against the two chief cities of the Gadites, Succoth and Penuel, for refusing him assistance. The elders of Succoth he seized and whipped with brambles. Penuel he attacked with force, slew the men who opposed him, and destroyed the great watch tower, the special strength and pride of the city.

After that no man in Israel ventured to oppose Gideon. He "judged" the land for forty years. The people would have made him and his descendants kings over them, but Gideon had not forgotten to Whom his success was due, and he answered his flatterers sternly "I will not rule over you, neither shall my son rule over you: the Lord shall rule over you."

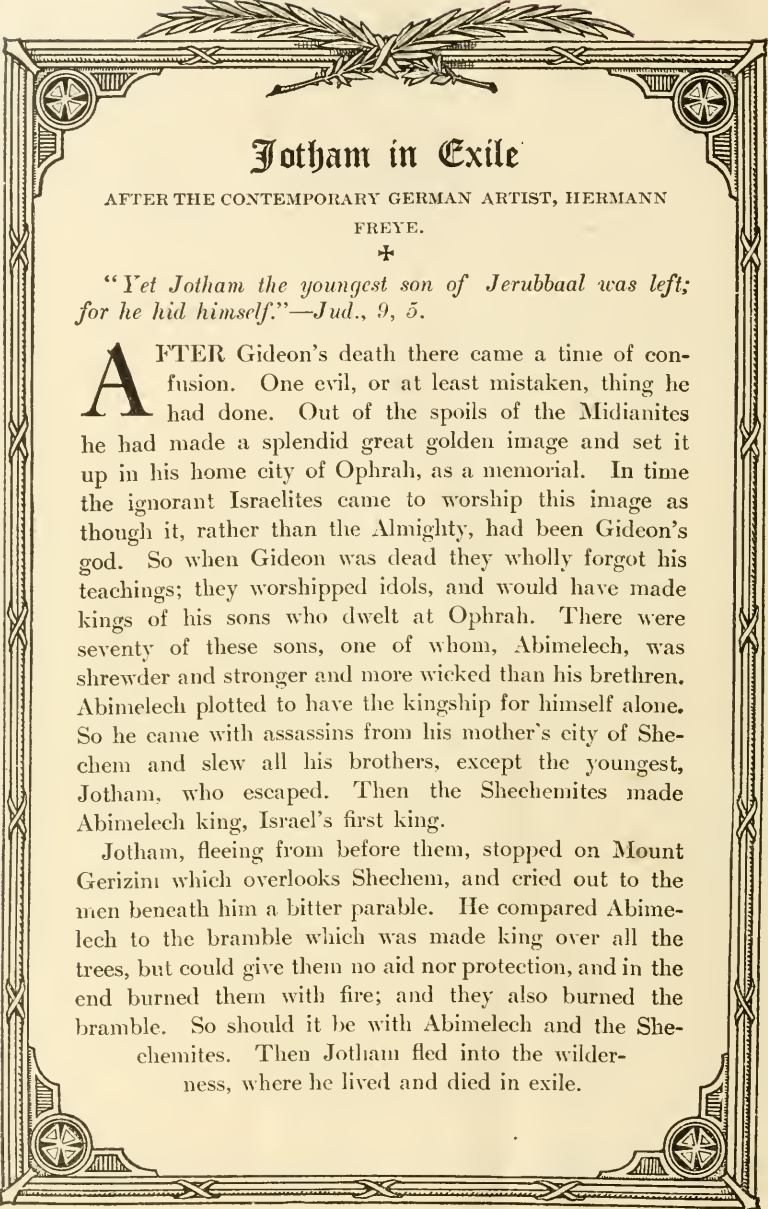




Journal in Cuba

1844

A



Jotham in Exile

AFTER THE CONTEMPORARY GERMAN ARTIST, HERMANN
FREYE.

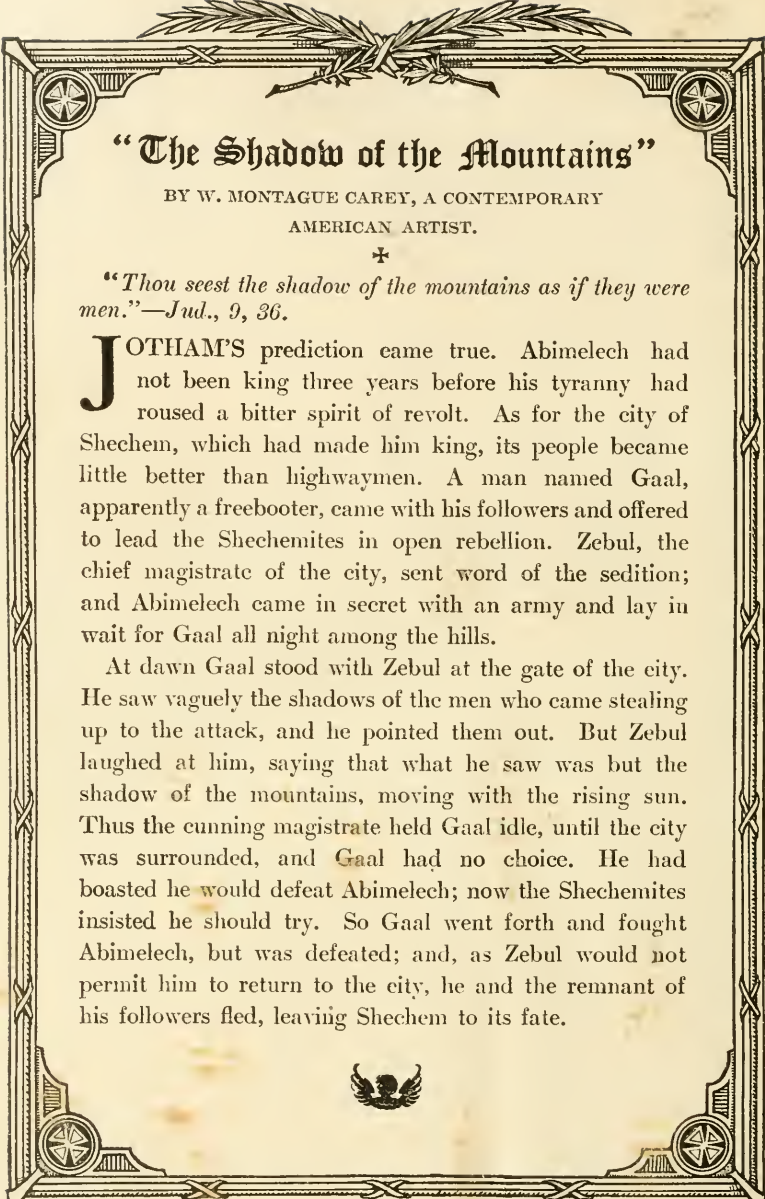


*"Yet Jotham the youngest son of Jerubbaal was left;
for he hid himself."—Jud., 9, 5.*

AFTER Gideon's death there came a time of confusion. One evil, or at least mistaken, thing he had done. Out of the spoils of the Midianites he had made a splendid great golden image and set it up in his home city of Ophrah, as a memorial. In time the ignorant Israelites came to worship this image as though it, rather than the Almighty, had been Gideon's god. So when Gideon was dead they wholly forgot his teachings; they worshipped idols, and would have made kings of his sons who dwelt at Ophrah. There were seventy of these sons, one of whom, Abimelech, was shrewder and stronger and more wicked than his brethren. Abimelech plotted to have the kingship for himself alone. So he came with assassins from his mother's city of Shechem and slew all his brothers, except the youngest, Jotham, who escaped. Then the Shechemites made Abimelech king, Israel's first king.

Jotham, fleeing from before them, stopped on Mount Gerizim which overlooks Shechem, and cried out to the men beneath him a bitter parable. He compared Abimelech to the bramble which was made king over all the trees, but could give them no aid nor protection, and in the end burned them with fire; and they also burned the bramble. So should it be with Abimelech and the Shechemites. Then Jotham fled into the wilderness, where he lived and died in exile.





“The Shadow of the Mountains”

BY W. MONTAGUE CAREY, A CONTEMPORARY
AMERICAN ARTIST.



“Thou seest the shadow of the mountains as if they were men.”—Jud., 9, 36.

JOTHAM'S prediction came true. Abimelech had not been king three years before his tyranny had roused a bitter spirit of revolt. As for the city of Shechem, which had made him king, its people became little better than highwaymen. A man named Gaal, apparently a freebooter, came with his followers and offered to lead the Shechemites in open rebellion. Zebul, the chief magistrate of the city, sent word of the sedition; and Abimelech came in secret with an army and lay in wait for Gaal all night among the hills.

At dawn Gaal stood with Zebul at the gate of the city. He saw vaguely the shadows of the men who came stealing up to the attack, and he pointed them out. But Zebul laughed at him, saying that what he saw was but the shadow of the mountains, moving with the rising sun. Thus the cunning magistrate held Gaal idle, until the city was surrounded, and Gaal had no choice. He had boasted he would defeat Abimelech; now the Shechemites insisted he should try. So Gaal went forth and fought Abimelech, but was defeated; and, as Zebul would not permit him to return to the city, he and the remnant of his followers fled, leaving Shechem to its fate.





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From the first settlement to the present time

By John Smith, Esq.

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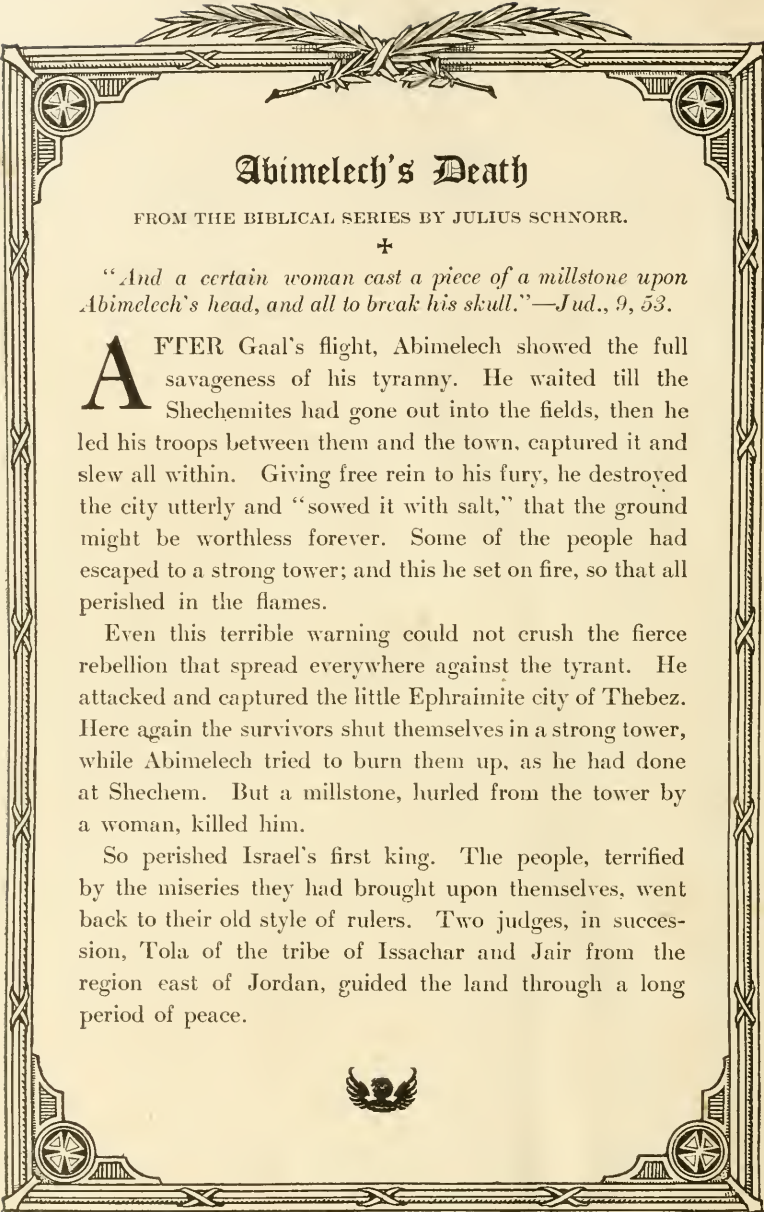
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Abimelech's Death

FROM THE BIBLICAL SERIES BY JULIUS SCHNORR.



"And a certain woman cast a piece of a millstone upon Abimelech's head, and all to break his skull."—Jud., 9, 53.

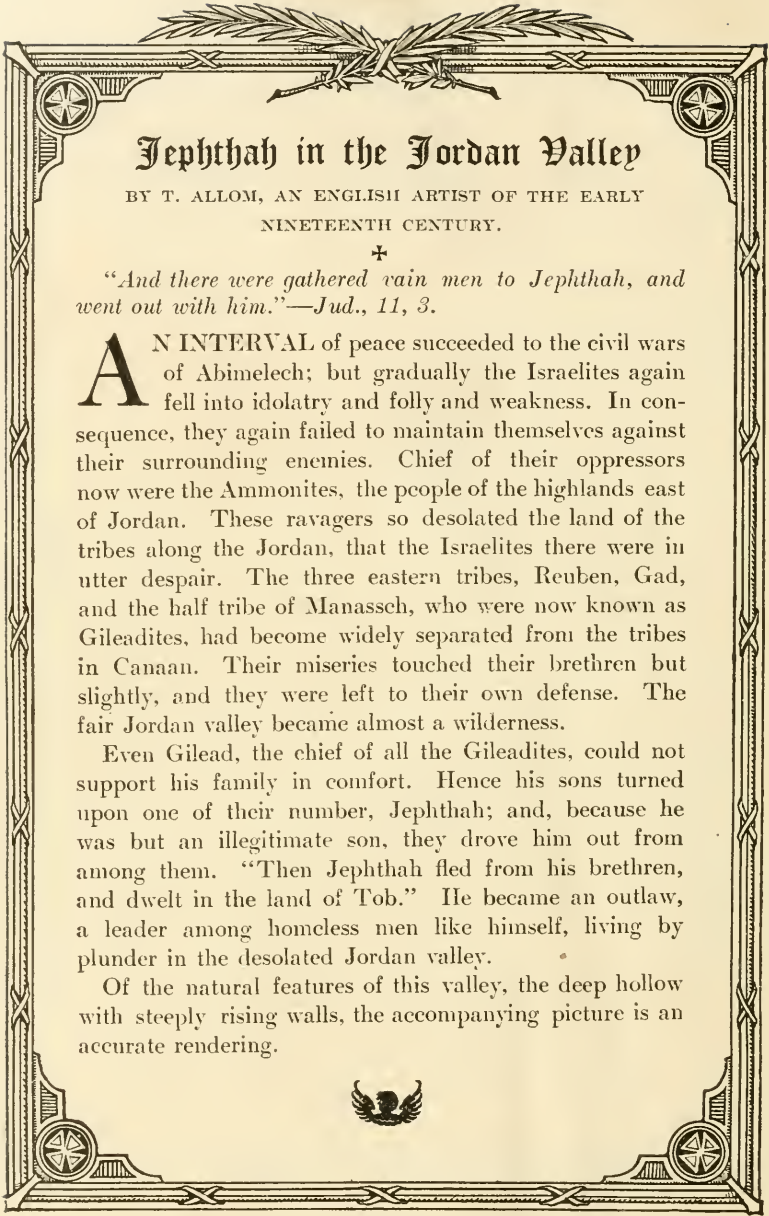
AFTER Gaal's flight, Abimelech showed the full savageness of his tyranny. He waited till the Shechemites had gone out into the fields, then he led his troops between them and the town, captured it and slew all within. Giving free rein to his fury, he destroyed the city utterly and "sowed it with salt," that the ground might be worthless forever. Some of the people had escaped to a strong tower; and this he set on fire, so that all perished in the flames.

Even this terrible warning could not crush the fierce rebellion that spread everywhere against the tyrant. He attacked and captured the little Ephraimite city of Thebez. Here again the survivors shut themselves in a strong tower, while Abimelech tried to burn them up, as he had done at Shechem. But a millstone, hurled from the tower by a woman, killed him.

So perished Israel's first king. The people, terrified by the miseries they had brought upon themselves, went back to their old style of rulers. Two judges, in succession, Tola of the tribe of Issachar and Jair from the region east of Jordan, guided the land through a long period of peace.







Jephthah in the Jordan Valley

BY T. ALLOM, AN ENGLISH ARTIST OF THE EARLY
NINETEENTH CENTURY.



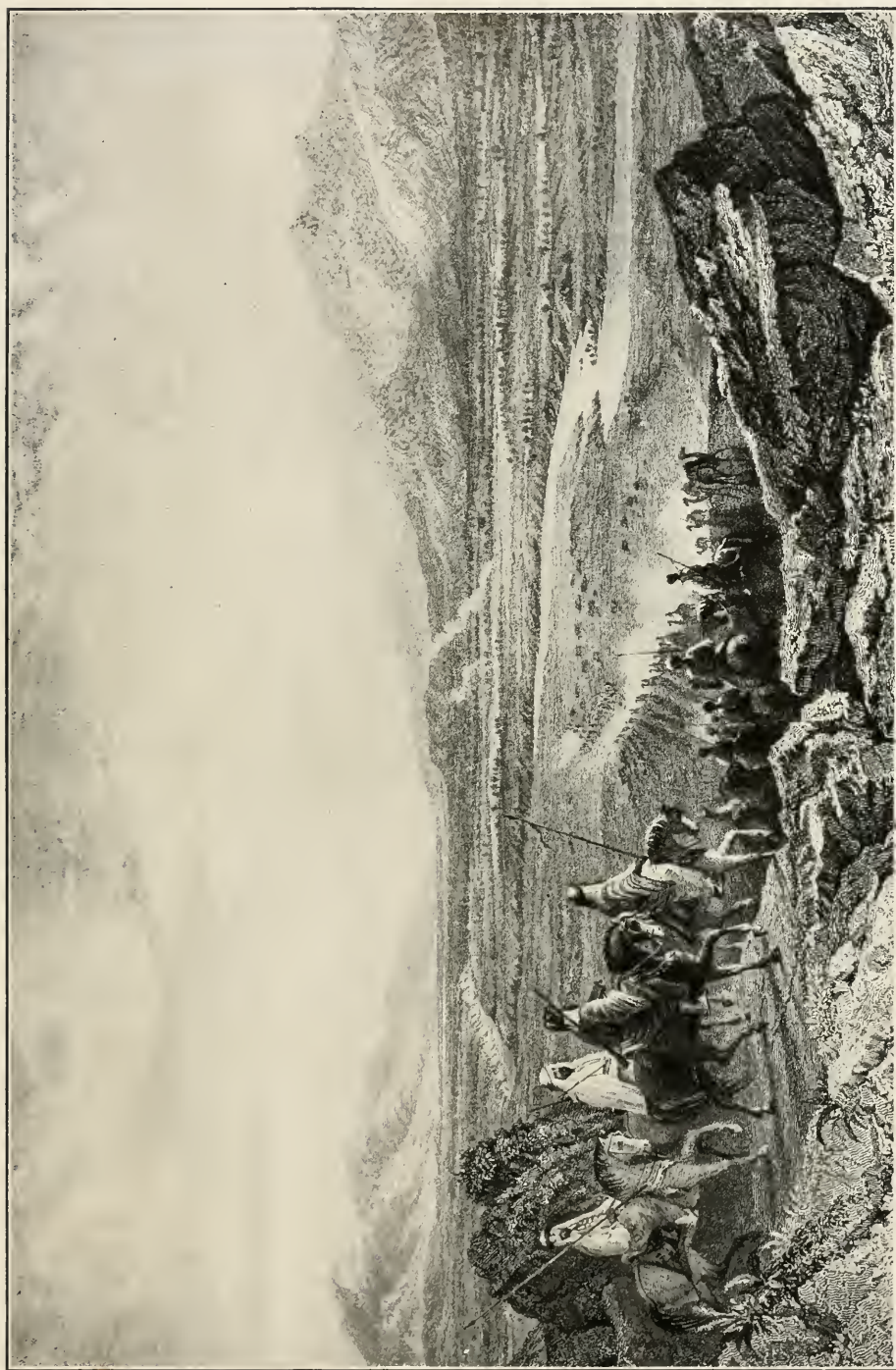
"And there were gathered vain men to Jephthah, and went out with him."—Jud., 11, 3.

AN INTERVAL of peace succeeded to the civil wars of Abimelech; but gradually the Israelites again fell into idolatry and folly and weakness. In consequence, they again failed to maintain themselves against their surrounding enemies. Chief of their oppressors now were the Ammonites, the people of the highlands east of Jordan. These ravagers so desolated the land of the tribes along the Jordan, that the Israelites there were in utter despair. The three eastern tribes, Reuben, Gad, and the half tribe of Manassch, who were now known as Gileadites, had become widely separated from the tribes in Canaan. Their miseries touched their brethren but slightly, and they were left to their own defense. The fair Jordan valley became almost a wilderness.

Even Gilead, the chief of all the Gileadites, could not support his family in comfort. Hence his sons turned upon one of their number, Jephthah; and, because he was but an illegitimate son, they drove him out from among them. "Then Jephthah fled from his brethren, and dwelt in the land of Tob." He became an outlaw, a leader among homeless men like himself, living by plunder in the desolated Jordan valley.

Of the natural features of this valley, the deep hollow with steeply rising walls, the accompanying picture is an accurate rendering.







Jephthah's Daughter

AFTER THE PAINTING BY KURT VON ROZINSKY, A
CONTEMPORARY GERMAN ARTIST.



"And she was his only child."—Jud., 11, 34.

THERE is no story in all the Bible more pathetic than that of Jephthah and his daughter. Despite his fierce and roving life, the outlaw was a man of tender heart, devoted to this his only child. Of her we gather from the story that she was strong and pure of heart, womanly and true, and that she had preserved some dim idea of the worship of God even amid all her wild and idolatrous surroundings.

Jephthah's fame as a "mighty man of valour" had spread over all Israel; and when at length the Ammonites declared a formal war of extermination against Israel, the Gileadites sent to the noted outlaw entreating him to return home and become their general. Doubtless with his daughter's future in his mind, Jephthah reminded the messengers of the ill-treatment he had formerly received; and he demanded, "If ye bring me home again to fight against the children of Ammon, and the Lord deliver them before me, shall I be your head?" The elders of Gilead promised this gladly. So Jephthah brought his household back to Mizpeh in Gilead, where his daughter was as a princess in the land, while he himself went forth against the Ammonites.





THE HISTORY

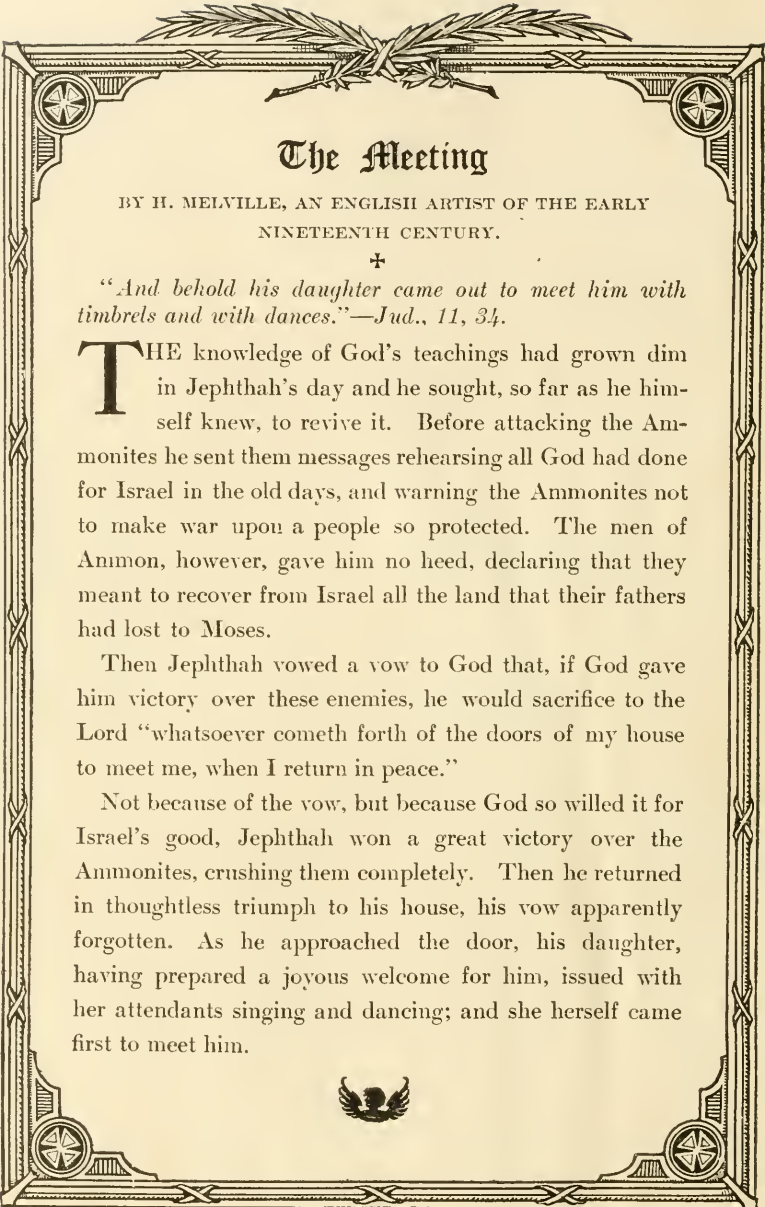
OF THE

REIGN OF

OF

THE GREAT BRITAIN, FROM THE DEATH OF
HIS MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY KING WILLIAM
THE THIRD, TO THE DEATH OF HIS MOST
EXCELLENT MAJESTY KING GEORGE THE SECOND.
IN TWO VOLUMES. THE FIRST VOLUME
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THE SECOND.





The Meeting

BY H. MELVILLE, AN ENGLISH ARTIST OF THE EARLY
NINETEENTH CENTURY.



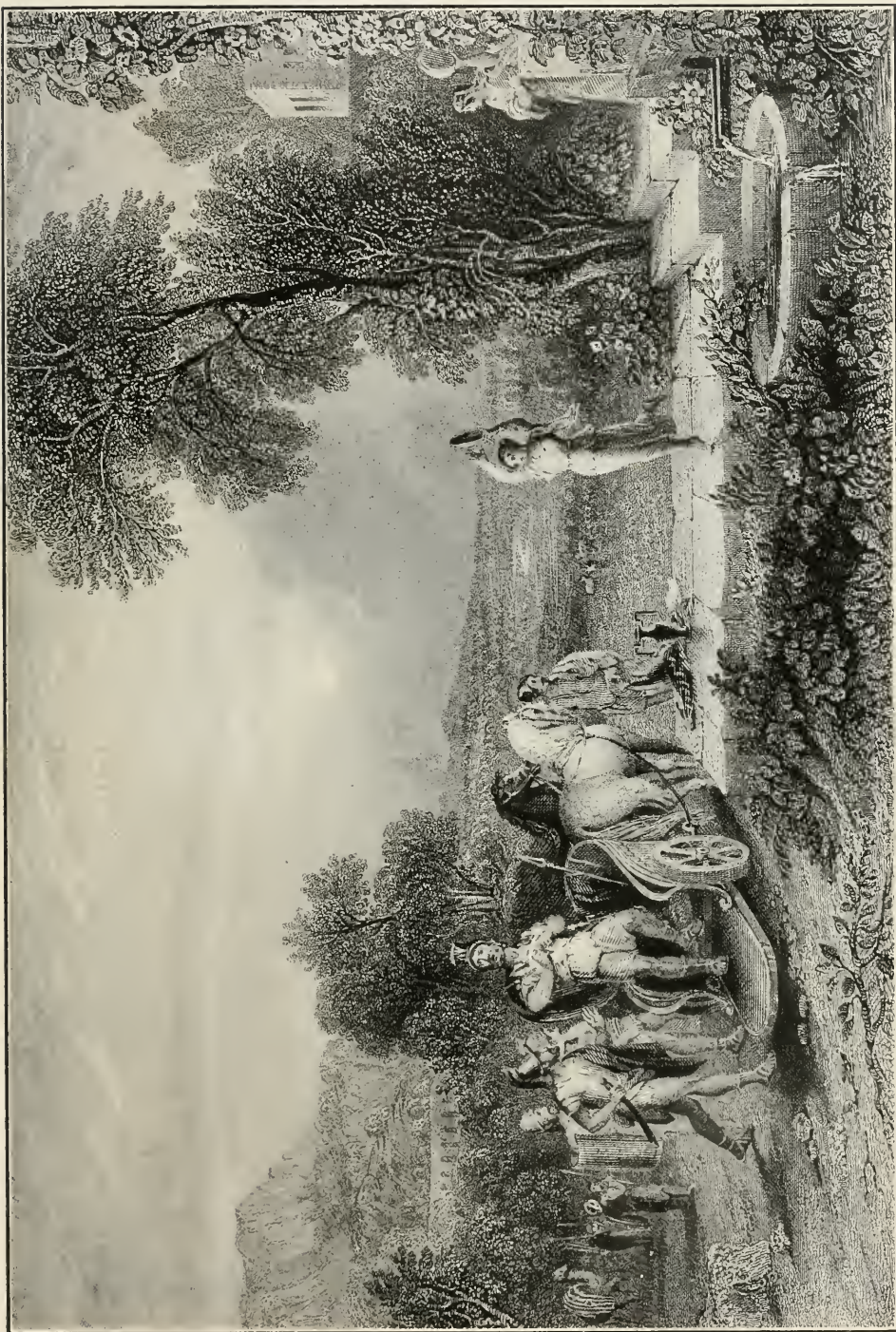
"And behold his daughter came out to meet him with timbrels and with dances."—Jud., 11, 34.

THE knowledge of God's teachings had grown dim in Jephthah's day and he sought, so far as he himself knew, to revive it. Before attacking the Ammonites he sent them messages rehearsing all God had done for Israel in the old days, and warning the Ammonites not to make war upon a people so protected. The men of Ammon, however, gave him no heed, declaring that they meant to recover from Israel all the land that their fathers had lost to Moses.

Then Jephthah vowed a vow to God that, if God gave him victory over these enemies, he would sacrifice to the Lord "whatsoever cometh forth of the doors of my house to meet me, when I return in peace."

Not because of the vow, but because God so willed it for Israel's good, Jephthah won a great victory over the Ammonites, crushing them completely. Then he returned in thoughtless triumph to his house, his vow apparently forgotten. As he approached the door, his daughter, having prepared a joyous welcome for him, issued with her attendants singing and dancing; and she herself came first to meet him.





the land of Edom, and the land of Moab, and came by the east side of the land of Moab, and pitched on the other side of Arnon, but came not within the border of Moab: for Arnon *was* the border of Moab.

19 And Israel sent messengers unto Sihon king of the Amorites, the king of Heshbon; and Israel said unto him, Let us pass, we pray thee, through thy land into my place.

20 But Sihon trusted not Israel to pass through his coast: but Sihon gathered all his people together, and pitched in Jahaz, and fought against Israel.

21 And the LORD God of Israel delivered Sihon and all his people into the hand of Israel, and they smote them: so Israel possessed all the land of the Amorites, the inhabitants of that country.

22 And they possessed all the coasts of the Amorites, from Arnon even unto Jabbok, and from the wilderness even unto Jordan.

23 So now the LORD God of Israel hath dispossessed the Amorites from before his people Israel, and shouldest thou possess it?

24 Wilt not thou possess that which Chemosh thy god giveth thee to possess? So whomsoever the LORD our God shall drive out from before us, them will we possess.

25 And now *art* thou any thing better than Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab? did he ever strive against Israel, or did he ever fight against them,

26 While Israel dwelt in Heshbon and her towns, and in Aroer and her towns, and in all the cities that *be* along by the coasts of Arnon, three hundred years? why therefore did ye not recover *them* within that time?

27 Wherefore I have not sinned against thee, but thou doest me wrong to war against me: the LORD the Judge be judge this day between the children of Israel and the children of Ammon.

28 Howbeit the king of the children of Ammon hearkened not unto the words of Jephthah which he sent him.

29 ¶ Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jephthah, and he passed over Gilead, and Manasseh, and passed over Mizpeh of Gilead, and from Mizpeh of Gilead he passed over *unto* the children of Ammon.

30 And Jephthah vowed a vow unto the LORD, and said, If thou shalt without fail deliver the children of Ammon into mine hands,

31 Then it shall be, that whatsoever cometh forth of the doors of my house to meet me, when I return in peace from the children of Ammon, shall surely be the LORD's, and I will offer it up for a burnt offering.

32 ¶ So Jephthah passed over unto the children of Ammon to fight against them; and the LORD delivered them into his hands.

33 And he smote them from Aroer, even till thou come to Minnith, *even* twenty cities, and unto the plain of the vineyards, with a very

great slaughter. Thus the children of Ammon were subdued before the children of Israel.

34 ¶ And Jephthah came to Mizpeh unto his house, and, behold, his daughter came out to meet him with timbrels and with dances: and she *was his only child*; beside her he had neither son nor daughter.

35 And it came to pass, when he saw her, that he rent his clothes, and said, Alas, my daughter! thou hast brought me very low, and thou art one of them that trouble me: for I have opened my mouth unto the LORD, and I cannot go back.

36 And she said unto him, My father, *if* thou hast opened thy mouth unto the LORD, do to me according to that which hath proceeded out of thy mouth; forasmuch as the LORD hath taken vengeance for thee of thine enemies, *even* of the children of Ammon.

37 And she said unto her father, Let this thing be done for me: let me alone two months, that I may go up and down upon the mountains, and bewail my virginity, I and my fellows.

38 And he said, Go. And he sent her away *for* two months: and she went with her companions, and bewailed her virginity upon the mountains.

39 And it came to pass at the end of two months, that she returned unto her father, who did with her *according* to his vow which he had vowed: and she knew no man. And it was a custom in Israel,

40 *That* the daughters of Israel went yearly to lament¹ the daughter of Jephthah the Gileadite four days in a year.

Chapter 12

¹ *The Ephraimites, quarrelling with Jephthah, and discerned by Shibboleth, are slain by the Gileadites. 7 Jephthah dieth. 8 Toban, who had thirty sons and thirty daughters, 11 and Elon, 13 and Abdon, who had forty sons and thirty nephews, judged Israel.*

AND the men of Ephraim gathered themselves together, and went northward, and said unto Jephthah, Wherefore passedst thou over to fight against the children of Ammon, and didst not call us to go with thee? we will burn thine house upon thee with fire.

2 And Jephthah said unto them, I and my people were at great strife with the children of Ammon; and when I called you, ye delivered me not out of their hands.

3 And when I saw that ye delivered *me* not, I put my life in my hands, and passed over against the children of Ammon, and the LORD delivered them into my hand: wherefore then are ye come up unto me this day, to fight against me?

4 Then Jephthah gathered together all the men of Gilead, and fought with Ephraim: and the men of Gilead smote Ephraim, be-

¹ This word "lament" may be translated "celebrate" or "recount." But it is better to follow the ancient versions and translate "lament." The story is generally accepted to mean that Jephthah put his daughter to death. And this must be the sense rather than that he only compelled her to take a vow of perpetual maidenhood.

cause they said, Ye Gileadites *are* fugitives of Ephraim among the Ephraimites, *and* among the Manassites.

5 And the Gileadites took the passages of Jordan before the Ephraimites: and it was *so*, that when those Ephraimites which were escaped said, Let me go over; that the men of Gilead said unto him, *Art* thou an Ephraimite? If he said Nay;

6 Then said they unto him, Say now Shibboleth: and he said Sibboleth: for he could not frame to pronounce *it* right. Then they took him, and slew him at the passages of Jordan: and there fell at that time of the Ephraimites forty and two thousand.

7 And Jephthah judged Israel six years. Then died Jephthah the Gileadite, and was buried in *one of* the cities of Gilead.

8 ¶ And after him Ibzan of Beth-lehem judged Israel.

9 And he had thirty sons, and thirty daughters, *whom* he sent abroad, and took in thirty daughters from abroad for his sons. And he judged Israel seven years.

10 Then died Ibzan, and was buried at Beth-lehem.

11 ¶ And after him Elon, a Zebulonite, judged Israel; and he judged Israel ten years.

12 And Elon the Zebulonite died, and was buried in Aijalon in the country of Zebulun.

13 ¶ And after him Abdon the son of Hillel, a Pirathonite, judged Israel.

14 And he had forty sons and thirty nephews,¹ that rode on three-score and ten ass colts: and he judged Israel eight years.

15 And Abdon the son of Hillel the Pirathonite died, and was buried in Pirathon in the land of Ephraim, in the mount of the Amalekites.

Chapter 13

¹ Israel is in the hand of the Philistines. ² An angel appeareth to Manoah's wife. ⁸ The angel appeareth to Manoah. ¹⁵ Manoah's sacrifice, whereby the angel is discovered. ²⁴ Samson is born.

AND the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD; and the LORD delivered them into the hand of the Philistines forty years.

2 ¶ And there was a certain man of Zorah, of the family of the Danites, whose name *was* Manoah; and his wife *was* barren, and bare not.

3 And the angel of the LORD appeared unto the woman, and said unto her, Behold now, thou *art* barren, and bearest not: but thou shalt conceive, and bear a son.

4 Now therefore beware, I pray thee, and drink not wine nor strong drink, and eat not any unclean *thing*:

5 For, lo, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and no razor shall

¹Or "sons' sons."

come on his head: for the child shall be a Nazarite unto God from the womb; and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines.

6 ¶ Then the woman came and told her husband, saying, A man of God came unto me, and his countenance *was* like the countenance of an angel of God, very terrible: but I asked him not whence he *was*, neither told he me his name.

7 But he said unto me, Behold, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and now drink no wine nor strong drink, neither eat any unclean *thing*: for the child shall be a Nazarite to God from the womb to the day of his death.

8 ¶ Then Manoah intreated the LORD, and said, O my LORD, let the man of God which thou didst send come again unto us, and teach us what we shall do unto the child that shall be born.

9 And God hearkened to the voice of Manoah; and the angel of God came again unto the woman as she sat in the field: but Manoah her husband *was* not with her.

10 And the woman made haste, and ran, and shewed her husband, and said unto him, Behold, the man hath appeared unto me, that came unto me the *other* day.

11 And Manoah arose, and went after his wife, and came to the man, and said unto him, *Art* thou the man that spakest unto the woman? And he said, I *am*.

12 And Manoah said, Now let thy words come to pass. How shall we order the child, and *how* shall we do unto him?¹

13 And the angel of the LORD said unto Manoah, Of all that I said unto the woman let her beware.

14 She may not eat of any *thing* that cometh of the vine, neither let her drink wine or strong drink, nor eat any unclean *thing*: all that I commanded her let her observe.

15 ¶ And Manoah said unto the angel of the LORD, I pray thee, let us detain thee, until we shall have made ready a kid for thee.

16 And the angel of the LORD said unto Manoah, Though thou detain me, I will not eat of thy bread: and if thou wilt offer a burnt offering, thou must offer it unto the LORD. For Manoah knew not that he *was* an angel of the LORD.

17 And Manoah said unto the angel of the LORD, What *is* thy name, that when thy sayings come to pass we may do thee honour?

18 And the angel of the LORD said unto him, Why askest thou thus after my name, seeing it *is* secret?²

19 So Manoah took a kid with a meat offering, and offered *it* upon

¹The Revised Version alters the last clause to "and what shall be his work?" ²The Revised Version changes "secret" to "wonderful."

a rock unto the LORD: and *the angel* did wondrously; and Manoah and his wife looked on.

20 For it came to pass, when the flame went up toward heaven from off the altar, that the angel of the LORD ascended in the flame of the altar. And Manoah and his wife looked on *it*, and fell on their faces to the ground.

21 But the angel of the LORD did no more appear to Manoah and to his wife. Then Manoah knew that he *was* an angel of the LORD.

22 And Manoah said unto his wife, We shall surely die, because we have seen God.

23 But his wife said unto him, If the LORD were pleased to kill us, he would not have received a burnt offering and a meat offering at our hands, neither would he have shewed us all these *things*, nor would as at this time have told us *such things* as these.

24 ¶ And the woman bare a son, and called his name Samson: and the child grew, and the LORD blessed him.

25 And the Spirit of the LORD began to move him at times in the camp of Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol.

Chapter 14

1 Samson desireth a wife of the Philistines. 5 In his journey he killeth a lion. 8 In a second journey he findeth honey in the carcase. 10 Samson's marriage feast. 12 His riddle by his wife is made known. 19 He spoileth thirty Philistines. 20 His wife is married to another.

AND Samson went down to Timnath, and saw a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines.

2 And he came up and told his father and his mother, and said, I have seen a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines: now therefore get her for me to wife.

3 Then his father and his mother said unto him, *Is there* never a woman among the daughters of thy brethren, or among all my people, that thou goest to take a wife of the uncircumcised Philistines? And Samson said unto his father, Get her for me; for she pleaseth me well.

4 But his father and his mother knew not that it *was* of the LORD, that he sought an occasion against the Philistines: for at that time the Philistines had dominion over Israel.

5 ¶ Then went Samson down, and his father and his mother, to Timnath, and came to the vineyards of Timnath: and, behold, a young lion roared against him.

6 And the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, and he rent him as he would have rent a kid, and *he had* nothing in his hand: but he told not his father or his mother what he had done.

7 And he went down, and talked with the woman; and she pleased Samson well.

8 ¶ And after a time he returned to take her, and he turned aside

to see the carcase of the lion: and, behold, *there was* a swarm of bees and honey in the carcase of the lion.

9 And he took thereof in his hands, and went on eating, and came to his father and mother, and he gave them, and they did eat: but he told not them that he had taken the honey out of the carcase of the lion.

10 ¶ So his father went down unto the woman: and Samson made there a feast; for so used the young men to do.

11 And it came to pass, when they saw him, that they brought thirty companions to be with him.

12 ¶ And Samson said unto them, I will now put forth a riddle unto you: if ye can certainly declare it me within the seven days of the feast, and find *it* out, then I will give you thirty sheets and thirty change of garments:

13 But if ye cannot declare *it* me, then shall ye give me thirty sheets and thirty change of garments. And they said unto him, Put forth thy riddle, that we may hear it.

14 And he said unto them, Out of the eater came forth meat, and out of the strong came forth sweetness. And they could not in three days expound the riddle.

15 And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they said unto Samson's wife, Entice thy husband, that he may declare unto us the riddle, lest we burn thee and thy father's house with fire: have ye called us to take that we have?¹ *is it* not so?

16 And Samson's wife wept before him, and said, Thou dost but hate me, and lovest me not: thou hast put forth a riddle unto the children of my people, and hast not told *it* me. And he said unto her, Behold, I have not told *it* my father nor my mother, and shall I tell *it* thee?

17 And she wept before him the seven days, while their feast lasted: and it came to pass on the seventh day, that he told her, because she lay sore upon him:² and she told the riddle to the children of her people.

18 And the men of the city said unto him on the seventh day before the sun went down, What *is* sweeter than honey? and what *is* stronger than a lion? And he said unto them, If ye had not plowed with my heifer, ye had not found out my riddle.

19 ¶ And the Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he went down to Ashkelon, and slew thirty men of them, and took their spoil, and gave change of garments unto them which expounded the riddle. And his anger was kindled, and he went up to his father's house.

20 But Samson's wife was *given* to his companion, whom he had used as his friend.

¹The meaning is, have you invited us, your countrymen, here, to enrich this stranger. ²The Revised Version says "because she pressed him sore."

Chapter 15

1 Samson is denied his wife. 3 He burneth the Philistines' corn with foxes and firebrands. 6 His wife and her father are burnt by the Philistines. 7 Samson smiteth them hip and thigh. 9 He is bound by the men of Judah, and delivered to the Philistines. 14 He killeth them with a jawbone. 18 God maketh the fountain En-hakkore for him in Lehi.

BUT it came to pass within a while after, in the time of wheat harvest, that Samson visited his wife with a kid; and he said, I will go in to my wife into the chamber. But her father would not suffer him to go in.

2 And her father said, I verily thought that thou hadst utterly hated her: therefore I gave her to thy companion: *is* not her younger sister fairer than she? take her, I pray thee, instead of her.

3 ¶ And Samson said concerning them, Now shall I be more blameless than the Philistines, though I do them a displeasure.

4 And Samson went and caught three hundred foxes, and took firebrands, and turned tail to tail, and put a firebrand in the midst between two tails.

5 And when he had set the brands on fire, he let *them* go into the standing corn of the Philistines, and burnt up both the shocks, and also the standing corn, with the vineyards *and* olives.

6 ¶ Then the Philistines said, Who hath done this? And they answered, Samson, the son-in-law of the Timnite, because he had taken his wife, and given her to his companion. And the Philistines came up, and burnt her and her father with fire.

7 ¶ And Samson said unto them, Though ye have done this, yet will I be avenged of you, and after that I will cease.

8 And he smote them hip and thigh with a great slaughter: and he went down and dwelt in the top of the rock Etam.

9 ¶ Then the Philistines went up, and pitched in Judah, and spread themselves in Lehi.

10 And the men of Judah said, Why are ye come up against us? And they answered, To bind Samson are we come up, to do to him as he hath done to us.

11 Then three thousand men of Judah went to the top of the rock Etam, and said to Samson, Knowest thou not that the Philistines are rulers over us? what *is* this *that* thou hast done unto us? And he said unto them, As they did unto me, so have I done unto them.

12 And they said unto him, We are come down to bind thee, that we may deliver thee into the hand of the Philistines. And Samson said unto them, Swear unto me, that ye will not fall upon me yourselves.

13 And they spake unto him, saying, No; but we will bind thee fast, and deliver thee into their hand: but surely we will not kill thee. And they bound him with two new cords, and brought him up from the rock.

14 ¶ And when he came unto Lehi, the Philistines shouted against him: and the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him, and the

cords that *were* upon his arms became as flax that was burnt with fire, and his bands loosed from off his hands.

15 And he found a new jawbone of an ass, and put forth his hand, and took it, and slew a thousand men therewith.

16 And Samson said, With the jawbone of an ass, heaps upon heaps, with the jaw of an ass have I slain a thousand men.¹

17 And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking, that he cast away the jawbone out of his hand, and called that place Ramath-lehi.²

18 And he was sore athirst, and called on the LORD, and said, Thou hast given this great deliverance into the hand of thy servant: and now shall I die for thirst, and fall into the hand of the uncircumcised?

19 But God clave an hollow place that *was* in the jaw, and there came water thereout; and when he had drunk, his spirit came again, and he revived: wherefore he called the name thereof En-hakkore,³ which *is* in Lehi unto this day.

20 And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

Chapter 16

1 Samson at Gaza escapeth, and carrieth away the gates of the city. 4 Delilah, corrupted by the Philistines, enticeth Samson. 6 Thrice she is deceived. 15 At last she overcometh him. 21 The Philistines take him, and put out his eyes. 22 His strength renewing, he pulleth down the house upon the Philistines, and dieth.

HEN went Samson to Gaza, and saw there an harlot, and went in unto her.

2 And it was told the Gazites, saying, Samson is come hither. And they compassed *him* in, and laid wait for him all night in the gate of the city, and were quiet all the night, saying, In the morning, when it is day, we shall kill him.

3 And Samson lay till midnight, and arose at midnight, and took the doors of the gate of the city, and the two posts, and went away with them, bar and all, and put *them* upon his shoulders, and carried them up to the top of an hill that *is* before Hebron.

4 ¶ And it came to pass afterward, that he loved a woman in the valley of Sorek, whose name *was* Delilah.

5 And the lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and said unto her, Entice him, and see wherein his great strength *lieth*, and by what *means* we may prevail against him, that we may bind him to afflict him: and we will give thee every one of us eleven hundred *pieces* of silver.

6 ¶ And Delilah said to Samson, Tell me, I pray, thee, wherein thy great strength *lieth*, and wherewith thou mightest be bound to afflict thee.

7 And Samson said unto her, If they bind me with seven green

¹Samson's speech is given as a poetic chant in the Revised Version. ²Ramath-lehi means "hill of the jawbone"; ³En-hakkore means "the spring of him that cried out."

withs that were never dried, then shall I be weak, and be as another man.

8 Then the lords of the Philistines brought up to her seven green withs which had not been dried, and she bound him with them.

9 Now *there were* men lying in wait, abiding with her in the chamber. And she said unto him, The Philistines *be* upon thee, Samson. And he brake the withs, as a thread of tow is broken when it toucheth the fire. So his strength was not known.

10 And Delilah said unto Samson, Behold, thou hast mocked me, and told me lies: now tell me, I pray thee, wherewith thou mightest be bound.

11 And he said unto her, If they bind me fast with new ropes that never were occupied, then shall I be weak, and be as another man.

12 Delilah therefore took new ropes, and bound him therewith, and said unto him, The Philistines *be* upon thee, Samson. And *there were* liers in wait abiding in the chamber. And he brake them from off his arms like a thread.

13 And Delilah said unto Samson, Hitherto thou hast mocked me, and told me lies: tell me wherewith thou mightest be bound. And he said unto her, If thou weavest the seven locks of my head with the web.

14 And she fastened *it* with the pin, and said unto him, The Philistines *be* upon thee, Samson. And he awaked out of his sleep, and went away with the pin of the beam, and with the web.¹

15 ¶ And she said unto him, How canst thou say, I love thee, when thine heart *is* not with me? thou hast mocked me these three times, and hast not told me wherein thy great strength *lieth*.

16 And it came to pass, when she pressed him daily with her words, and urged him, *so* that his soul was vexed unto death;

17 That he told her all his heart, and said unto her, There hath not come a razor upon mine head; for I *have been* a Nazarite unto God from my mother's womb: if I be shaven, then my strength will go from me, and I shall become weak, and be like any *other* man.

18 And when Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent and called for the lords of the Philistines, saying, Come up this once, for he hath shewed me all his heart. Then the lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and brought money in their hand.

19 And she made him sleep upon her knees; and she called for a man, and she caused him to shave off the seven locks of his head; and she began to afflict him, and his strength went from him.

20 And she said, The Philistines *be* upon thee, Samson. And he awoke out of his sleep, and said, I will go out as at other times before, and shake myself. And he wist not that the LORD was departed from him.

¹The idea of this passage is that she had woven the locks of his hair in with the threads of a web of cloth upon her loom. As Samson rises his strength breaks the heavy loom, and he carries off part of it still tangled in his hair.

21 ¶ But the Philistines took him, and put out his eyes; and brought him down to Gaza, and bound him with fetters of brass; and he did grind in the prison house.

22 Howbeit the hair of his head began to grow again after he was shaven.

23 Then the lords of the Philistines gathered them together for to offer a great sacrifice unto Dagon their god, and to rejoice: for they said, Our god hath delivered Samson our enemy into our hand.

24 And when the people saw him, they praised their god: for they said, Our god hath delivered into our hands our enemy, and the destroyer of our country, which slew many of us.

25 And it came to pass, when their hearts were merry, that they said, Call for Samson, that he may make us sport. And they called for Samson out of the prison house; and he made them sport: and they set him between the pillars.

26 And Samson said unto the lad that held him by the hand, Suffer me that I may feel the pillars whereupon the house standeth, that I may lean upon them.

27 Now the house was full of men and women; and all the lords of the Philistines *were* there, and *there were* upon the roof about three thousand men and women, that beheld while Samson made sport.

28 And Samson called unto the LORD, and said, O Lord God, remember me, I pray thee, and strengthen me, I pray thee, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes.

29 And Samson took hold of the two middle pillars upon which the house stood, and on which it was borne up, of the one with his right hand, and of the other with his left.

30 And Samson said, Let me die with the Philistines. And he bowed himself with *all his* might; and the house fell upon the lords, and upon all the people that *were* therein. So the dead which he slew at his death were more than *they* which he slew in his life.

31 Then his brethren and all the house of his father came down, and took him, and brought *him* up, and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the buryingplace of Manoah his father. And he judged Israel twenty years.

Chapter 17

¹ Of the money that Micah first stole, then restored, his mother maketh images, 5 and he ornaments for them. 7 He hireth a Levite to be his priest.

AND there was a man of mount Ephraim, whose name was Micah.¹

2 And he said unto his mother, The eleven hundred *shekels* of silver that were taken from thee, about which thou cursedst, and

¹The stories of the following chapters are not chronologically placed; for they appear to have occurred soon after the days of Joshua.

spakest of also in mine ears, behold, the silver *is* with me; I took it. And his mother said, Blessed *be thou* of the LORD, my son.

3 And when he had restored the eleven hundred *shekels* of silver to his mother, his mother said, I had wholly dedicated the silver unto the LORD from my hand for my son, to make a graven image and a molten image: now therefore I will restore it unto thee.

4 Yet he restored the money unto his mother; and his mother took two hundred *shekels* of silver, and gave them to the founder, who made thereof a graven image and a molten image: and they were in the house of Micah.

5 And the man Micah had an house of gods, and made an ephod, and teraphim, and consecrated one of his sons, who became his priest.

6 In those days *there was* no king in Israel, *but* every man did *that which was* right in his own eyes.

7 ¶ And there was a young man out of Beth-lehem-judah of the family of Judah, who *was* a Levite, and he sojourned there.

8 And the man departed out of the city from Beth-lehem-judah to sojourn where he could find *a place*: and he came to mount Ephraim to the house of Micah, as he journeyed.

9 And Micah said unto him, Whence comest thou? And he said unto him, I *am* a Levite of Beth-lehem-judah, and I go to sojourn where I may find *a place*.

10 And Micah said unto him, Dwell with me, and be unto me a father and a priest, and I will give thee ten *shekels* of silver by the year, and a suit of apparel, and thy victuals. So the Levite went in.

11 And the Levite was content to dwell with the man; and the young man was unto him as one of his sons.

12 And Micah consecrated the Levite; and the young man became his priest, and was in the house of Micah.

13 Then said Micah, Now know I that the LORD will do me good, seeing I have a Levite to *my* priest.

Chapter 18

1 The Danites send five men to seek out an inheritance. 3 At the house of Micah they consult with Jonathan, and are encouraged in their way. 7 They search Laish, and bring back news of good hope. 11 Six hundred men are sent to surprise it. 14 In the way they rob Micah of his priest and his consecrated things. 27 They win Laish, and call it Dan. 30 They set up idolatry, wherein Jonathan inherited the priesthood.

IN those days *there was* no king in Israel; and in those days the tribe of the Danites sought them an inheritance to dwell in; for unto that day *all their* inheritance had not fallen unto them among the tribes of Israel.

2 And the children of Dan sent of their family five men from their coasts, men of valour, from Zorah, and from Eshtaol, to spy out the land, and to search it; and they said unto them, Go, search the land:

who when they came to mount Ephraim, to the house of Micah, they lodged there.

3 When they *were* by the house of Micah, they knew the voice of the young man the Levite: and they turned in thither, and said unto him, Who brought thee hither? and what makest thou in this *place*? and what hast thou here?

4 And he said unto them, Thus and thus dealeth Micah with me, and hath hired me, and I am his priest.

5 And they said unto him, Ask counsel, we pray thee, of God, that we may know whether our way which we go shall be prosperous.

6 And the priest said unto them, Go in peace: before the LORD *is* your way wherein ye go.

7 ¶ Then the five men departed, and came to Laish, and saw the people that *were* therein, how they dwelt careless, after the manner of the Zidonians, quiet and secure; and *there was* no magistrate in the land, that might put *them* to shame in *any* thing; and they *were* far from the Zidonians, and had no business with *any* man.

8 And they came unto their brethren to Zorah and Eshtaol: and their brethren said unto them, What *say* ye?

9 And they said, Arise, that we may go up against them: for we have seen the land, and, behold, it *is* very good: and *are* ye still? be not slothful to go, *and* to enter to possess the land.

10 When ye go, ye shall come unto a people secure, and to a large land: for God hath given it into your hands; a place where *there is* no want of any thing that *is* in the earth.

11 ¶ And there went from thence of the family of the Danites, out of Zorah and out of Eshtaol, six hundred men appointed with weapons of war.

12 And they went up, and pitched in Kirjath-jearim, in Judah: wherefore they called that place Mahaneh-dan unto this day: behold, *it is* behind Kirjath-jearim.

13 And they passed thence unto mount Ephraim, and came unto the house of Micah.

14 ¶ Then answered the five men that went to spy out the country of Laish, and said unto their brethren, Do ye know that there is in these houses an ephod, and teraphim, and a graven image, and a molten image? now therefore consider what ye have to do.

15 And they turned thitherward, and came to the house of the young man the Levite, *even* unto the house of Micah, and saluted him.

16 And the six hundred men appointed with their weapons of war, which *were* of the children of Dan, stood by the entering of the gate.

17 And the five men that went to spy out the land went up, *and* came in thither, *and* took the graven image, and the ephod, and the teraphim, and the molten image: and the priest stood in the entering of

the gate with the six hundred men *that were* appointed with weapons of war.

18 And these went into Micah's house, and fetched the carved image, the ephod, and the teraphim, and the molten image. Then said the priest unto them, What do ye?

19 And they said unto him, Hold thy peace, lay thine hand upon thy mouth, and go with us, and be to us a father and a priest: *is it* better for thee to be a priest unto the house of one man, or that thou be a priest unto a tribe and a family in Israel?

20 And the priest's heart was glad, and he took the ephod, and the teraphim, and the graven image, and went in the midst of the people.

21 So they turned and departed, and put the little ones and the cattle and the carriage before them.

22 ¶ And when they were a good way from the house of Micah, the men that *were* in the houses near to Micah's house were gathered together, and overtook the children of Dan.

23 And they cried unto the children of Dan. And they turned their faces, and said unto Micah, What aileth thee, that thou comest with such a company?

24 And he said, Ye have taken away my gods which I made, and the priest, and ye are gone away: and what have I more? and what *is this that* ye say unto me, What aileth thee?

25 And the children of Dan said unto him, Let not thy voice be heard among us, lest angry fellows run upon thee, and thou lose thy life, with the lives of thy household.

26 And the children of Dan went their way: and when Micah saw that they *were* too strong for him, he turned and went back unto his house.

27 And they took *the things* which Micah had made, and the priest which he had, and came unto Laish, unto a people *that were* at quiet and secure: and they smote them with the edge of the sword, and burnt the city with fire.

28 And *there was* no deliverer, because it *was* far from Zidon, and they had no business with *any* man; and it was in the valley that *lieth* by Beth-rehob. And they built a city, and dwelt therein.

29 And they called the name of the city Dan, after the name of Dan their father, who was born unto Israel: howbeit the name of the city *was* Laish at the first.

30 ¶ And the children of Dan set up the graven image: and Jonathan, the son of Gershom, the son of Manasseh,¹ he and his sons were priests to the tribe of Dan until the day of the captivity of the land.

31 And they set them up Micah's graven image, which he made, all the time that the house of God was in Shiloh.

¹The Revised Version changes Manasseh to Moses, so that this Jonathan was the great law-giver's grandson.

Chapter 19

1 *A Levite goeth to Beth-lehem to fetch home his wife.* 16 *An old man entertaineth him at Gibeah.* 25 *The Gibeonites abuse his concubine to death.* 29 *He divideth her into twelve pieces, to send them to the twelve tribes.*

AND it came to pass in those days, when *there was* no king in Israel, that there was a certain Levite sojourning on the side of mount Ephraim, who took to him a concubine out of Beth-lehem-judah.

2 And his concubine played the whore against him, and went away from him unto her father's house to Beth-lehem-judah, and was there four whole months.

3 And her husband arose, and went after her, to speak friendly unto her, *and* to bring her again, having his servant with him, and a couple of asses: and she brought him into her father's house: and when the father of the damsel saw him, he rejoiced to meet him.

4 And his father-in-law, the damsel's father, retained him; and he abode with him three days: so they did eat and drink, and lodged there.

5 ¶ And it came to pass on the fourth day, when they arose early in the morning, that he rose up to depart: and the damsel's father said unto his son-in-law, Comfort thine heart with a morsel of bread, and afterward go your way.

6 And they sat down, and did eat and drink both of them together: for the damsel's father had said unto the man, Be content, I pray thee, and tarry all night, and let thine heart be merry.

7 And when the man rose up to depart, his father-in-law urged him: therefore he lodged there again.

8 And he arose early in the morning on the fifth day to depart: and the damsel's father said, Comfort thine heart, I pray thee. And they tarried until afternoon, and they did eat both of them.

9 And when the man rose up to depart, he, and his concubine, and his servant, his father-in-law, the damsel's father, said unto him, Behold, now the day draweth toward evening, I pray you tarry all night: behold, the day groweth to an end, lodge here, that thine heart may be merry; and to-morrow get you early on your way that thou mayest go home.

10 But the man would not tarry that night, but he rose up and departed, and came over against Jebus, which *is* Jerusalem; and *there were* with him two asses saddled, his concubine also *was* with him.

11 And when they *were* by Jebus, the day was far spent; and the servant said unto his master, Come, I pray thee, and let us turn in into this city of the Jebusites, and lodge in it.

12 And his master said unto him, We will not turn aside hither into the city of a stranger, that *is* not of the children of Israel; we will pass over to Gibeah.

13 And he said unto his servant, Come, and let us draw near to one of these places to lodge all night, in Gibeah, or in Ramah.

14 And they passed on and went their way; and the sun went down upon them *when they were* by Gibeah, which *belongeth* to Benjamin.

15 And they turned aside thither, to go in *and* to lodge in Gibeah: and when he went in, he sat him down in a street of the city: for *there was* no man that took them into his house to lodging.

16 ¶ And, behold, there came an old man from his work out of the field at even, which *was* also of mount Ephraim; and he sojourned in Gibeah: but the men of the place *were* Benjamites.

17 And when he had lifted up his eyes, he saw a wayfaring man in the street of the city: and the old man said, Whither goest thou? and whence comest thou?

18 And he said unto him, We *are* passing from Beth-lehem-judah toward the side of mount Ephraim; from thence *am* I: and I went to Beth-lehem-judah, but I *am now* going to the house of the LORD; and there *is* no man that receiveth me to house.

19 Yet there is both straw and provender for our asses; and there is bread and wine also for me, and for thy handmaid, and for the young man *which is* with thy servants: *there is* no want of any thing.

20 And the old man said, Peace *be* with thee; howsoever *let* all thy wants *lie* upon me; only lodge not in the street.

21 So he brought him into his house, and gave provender unto the asses: and they washed their feet, and did eat and drink.

22 ¶ *Now* as they were making their hearts merry, behold, the men of the city, certain sons of Belial, beset the house round about, *and* beat at the door, and spake to the master of the house, the old man, saying, Bring forth the man that came into thine house, that we may know him.

23 And the man, the master of the house, went out unto them, and said unto them, Nay, my brethren, *nay*, I pray you, do not *so* wickedly; seeing that this man is come into mine house, do not this folly.

24 Behold, *here is* my daughter a maiden, and his concubine; them I will bring out now, and humble ye them, and do with them what seemeth good unto you; but unto this man do not so vile a thing.

25 But the men would not hearken to him: so the man took his concubine, and brought her forth unto them: and they knew her, and abused her all the night until the morning: and when the day began to spring they let her go.

26 Then came the woman in the dawning of the day, and fell down at the door of the man's house where her lord *was*, till it was light.

27 And her lord rose up in the morning, and opened the doors of the house, and went out to go his way; and, behold, the woman his

concubine was fallen down *at* the door of the house, and her hands *were* upon the threshold.

28 And he said unto her, Up, and let us be going. But none answered. Then the man took her *up* upon an ass, and the man rose up, and gat him unto his place.

29 ¶ And when he was come into his house, he took a knife, and laid hold on his concubine, and divided her, *together* with her bones, into twelve pieces, and sent her into all the coast of Israel.

30 And it was so, that all that saw it said, There was no such deed done nor seen from the day that the children of Israel came up out of the land of Egypt unto this day: consider of it, take advice, and speak *your minds*.

Chapter 20

1 The Levite in a general assembly declareth his wrong. 8 The decree of the assembly. 12 The Benjamites, being cited, make head against the Israelites. 18 The Israelites in two battles lose forty thousand. 26 They destroy by a stratagem all the Benjamites, except six hundred.



HEN all the children of Israel went out, and the congregation was gathered together as one man, from Dan even to Beer-sheba, with the land of Gilead, unto the LORD in Mizpeh.

2 And the chief of all the people, *even* of all the tribes of Israel, presented themselves in the assembly of the people of God, four hundred thousand footmen that drew sword.

3 (Now the children of Benjamin heard that the children of Israel were gone up to Mizpeh.) Then said the children of Israel, Tell *us*, how was this wickedness?

4 And the Levite, the husband of the woman that was slain, answered and said, I came into Gibeah that *belongeth* to Benjamin, I and my concubine, to lodge.

5 And the men of Gibeah rose against me, and beset the house round about upon me by night, *and* thought to have slain me: and my concubine have they forced, that she is dead.

6 And I took my concubine, and cut her in pieces, and sent her throughout all the country of the inheritance of Israel: for they have committed lewdness and folly in Israel.

7 Behold, ye *are* all children of Israel; give here your advice and counsel.

8 ¶ And all the people arose as one man, saying, We will not any *of us* go to his tent, neither will we any *of us* turn into his house.

9 But now this *shall be* the thing which we will do to Gibeah; *we will go up* by lot against it;

10 And we will take ten men of an hundred throughout all the tribes of Israel, and an hundred of a thousand, and a thousand out of ten thousand, to fetch victual for the people, that they may do, when they come to Gibeah of Benjamin, according to all the folly that they have wrought in Israel.

11 So all the men of Israel were gathered against the city, knit together as one man.

12 ¶ And the tribes of Israel sent men through all the tribe of Benjamin, saying, What wickedness *is* this that is done among you?

13 Now therefore deliver *us* the men, the children of Belial, which *are* in Gibeah, that we may put them to death, and put away evil from Israel. But the children of Benjamin would not hearken to the voice of their brethren the children of Israel:

14 But the children of Benjamin gathered themselves together out of the cities unto Gibeah, to go out to battle against the children of Israel.

15 And the children of Benjamin were numbered at that time out of the cities twenty and six thousand men that drew sword, beside the inhabitants of Gibeah, which were numbered seven hundred chosen men.

16 Among all this people *there were* seven hundred chosen men lefthanded; every one could sling stones at an hair *breadth*, and not miss.

17 And the men of Israel, beside Benjamin, were numbered four hundred thousand men that drew sword: all these *were* men of war.

18 ¶ And the children of Israel arose, and went up to the house of God, and asked counsel of God, and said, Which of us shall go up first to the battle against the children of Benjamin? And the LORD said, Judah *shall go up* first.

19 And the children of Israel rose up in the morning, and encamped against Gibeah.

20 And the men of Israel went out to battle against Benjamin; and the men of Israel put themselves in array to fight against them at Gibeah.

21 And the children of Benjamin came forth out of Gibeah, and destroyed down to the ground of the Israelites that day twenty and two thousand men.

22 And the people the men of Israel encouraged themselves, and set their battle again in array in the place where they put themselves in array the first day.

23 (And the children of Israel went up and wept before the LORD until even, and asked counsel of the LORD, saying, Shall I go up again to battle against the children of Benjamin my brother? And the LORD said, Go up against him.)

24 And the children of Israel came near against the children of Benjamin the second day.

25 And Benjamin went forth against them out of Gibeah the second day, and destroyed down to the ground of the children of Israel again eighteen thousand men; all these drew the sword.

26 ¶ Then all the children of Israel, and all the people, went up, and came unto the house of God, and wept, and sat there before

the LORD, and fasted that day until even, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD.

27 And the children of Israel inquired of the LORD, (for the ark of the covenant of God *was* there in those days,

28 And Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron, stood before it in those days,) saying, Shall I yet again go out to battle against the children of Benjamin my brother, or shall I cease? And the LORD said, Go up, for to-morrow I will deliver them into thine hand.

29 And Israel set liers in wait round about Gibeah.

30 And the children of Israel went up against the children of Benjamin on the third day, and put themselves in array against Gibeah, as at other times.

31 And the children of Benjamin went out against the people, *and* were drawn away from the city; and they began to smite of the people, *and* kill, as at other times, in the highways, of which one goeth up to the house of God, and the other to Gibeah in the field, about thirty men of Israel.

32 And the children of Benjamin said, They *are* smitten down before us, as at the first. But the children of Israel said, Let us flee, and draw them from the city unto the highways.

33 And all the men of Israel rose up out of their place, and put themselves in array at Baal-tamar: and the liers in wait of Israel came forth out of their places, *even* out of the meadows of Gibeah.

34 And there came against Gibeah ten thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and the battle was sore: but they knew not that evil *was* near them.

35 And the LORD smote Benjamin before Israel: and the children of Israel destroyed of the Benjamites that day twenty and five thousand and an hundred men: all these drew the sword.

36 So the children of Benjamin saw that they were smitten: for the men of Israel gave place to the Benjamites, because they trusted unto the liers in wait which they had set beside Gibeah.

37 And the liers in wait hasted, and rushed upon Gibeah; and the liers in wait drew *themselves* along, and smote all the city with the edge of the sword.

38 Now there was an appointed sign between the men of Israel and the liers in wait, that they should make a great flame with smoke rise up out of the city.

39 And when the men of Israel retired in the battle, Benjamin began to smite *and* kill of the men of Israel about thirty persons: for they said, Surely they are smitten down before us, as *in* the first battle.

40 But when the flame began to arise up out of the city with a pillar of smoke, the Benjamites looked behind them, and, behold, the flame of the city ascended up to heaven.

41 And when the men of Israel turned again, the men of Benjamin were amazed: for they saw that evil was come upon them.

42 Therefore they turned *their backs* before the men of Israel unto the way of the wilderness; but the battle overtook them; and them which *came* out of the cities they destroyed in the midst of them.

43 *Thus* they inclosed the Benjamites round about, *and* chased them, *and* trode them down with ease over against Gibeah toward the sunrising.

44 And there fell of Benjamin eighteen thousand men; all these *were* men of valour.

45 And they turned and fled toward the wilderness unto the rock of Rimmon: and they gleaned of them in the highways five thousand men; and pursued hard after them unto Gidom, and slew two thousand men of them.

46 So that all which fell that day of Benjamin were twenty and five thousand men that drew the sword; all these *were* men of valour.

47 But six hundred men turned and fled to the wilderness unto the rock Rimmon, and abode in the rock Rimmon four months.

48 And the men of Israel turned again upon the children of Benjamin, and smote them with the edge of the sword, as well the men of *every* city, as the beast, and all that came to hand: also they set on fire all the cities that they came to.

Chapter 21

¹ The people bewail the desolation of Benjamin. ⁸ By the destruction of Jabesh-gilead they provide them four hundred wives. ¹⁶ They advise them to surprise the virgins that danced at Shiloh.

NOW the men of Israel had sworn in Mizpeh, saying, There shall not any of us give his daughter unto Benjamin to wife.

2 And the people came to the house of God, and abode there till even before God, and lifted up their voices, and wept sore;

3 And said, O LORD God of Israel, why is this come to pass in Israel, that there should be to-day one tribe lacking in Israel?

4 And it came to pass on the morrow, that the people rose early, and built there an altar, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings.

5 And the children of Israel said, Who *is there* among all the tribes of Israel that came not up with the congregation unto the LORD? For they had made a great oath concerning him that came not up to the LORD to Mizpeh, saying, He shall surely be put to death.

6 And the children of Israel repented them for Benjamin their brother, and said, There is one tribe cut off from Israel this day.

7 How shall we do for wives for them that remain, seeing we have sworn by the LORD that we will not give them of our daughters to wives?

8 ¶ And they said, What one *is there* of the tribes of Israel that

came not up to Mizpeh to the LORD? And, behold, there came none to the camp from Jabesh-gilead to the assembly.

9 For the people were numbered, and, behold, *there were* none of the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead there.

10 And the congregation sent thither twelve thousand men of the valiantest, and commanded them, saying, Go and smite the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead with the edge of the sword, with the women and the children.

11 And this *is* the thing that ye shall do, Ye shall utterly destroy every male, and every woman that hath lain by man.

12 And they found among the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead four hundred young virgins, that had known no man by lying with any male: and they brought them unto the camp to Shiloh, which *is* in the land of Canaan.

13 And the whole congregation sent *some* to speak to the children of Benjamin that *were* in the rock Rimmon, and to call peaceably unto them.

14 And Benjamin came again at that time; and they gave them wives which they had saved alive of the women of Jabesh-gilead: and yet so they sufficed them not.

15 And the people repented them for Benjamin, because that the LORD had made a breach in the tribes of Israel.

16 ¶ Then the elders of the congregation said, How shall we do for wives for them that remain, seeing the women are destroyed out of Benjamin?

17 And they said, *There must be* an inheritance for them that be escaped of Benjamin, that a tribe be not destroyed out of Israel.

18 Howbeit we may not give them wives of our daughters: for the children of Israel have sworn, saying, Cursed *be* he that giveth a wife to Benjamin.

19 Then they said, Behold, *there is* a feast of the LORD in Shiloh yearly *in a place* which *is* on the north side of Beth-el, on the east side of the highway that goeth up from Beth-el to Shechem, and on the south of Lebonah.

20 Therefore they commanded the children of Benjamin, saying, Go and lie in wait in the vineyards;

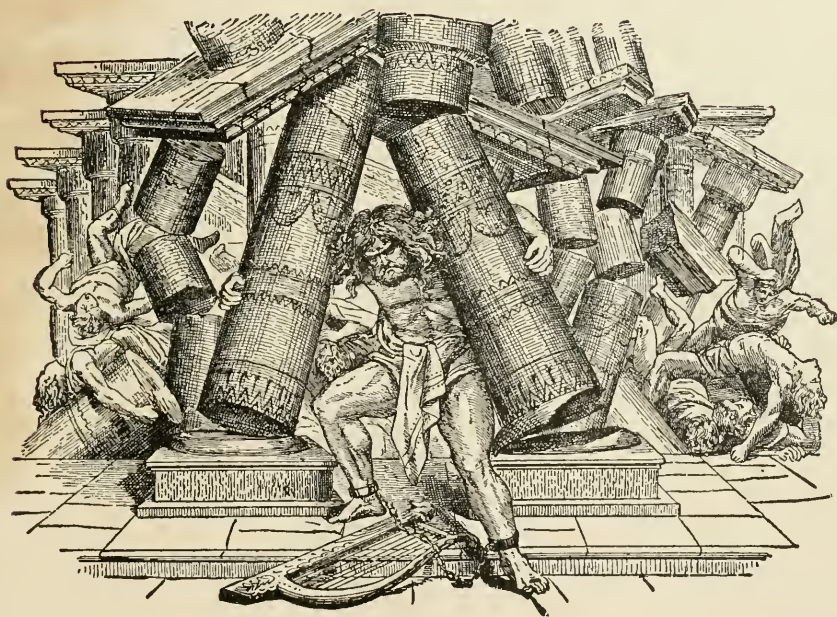
21 And see, and, behold, if the daughters of Shiloh come out to dance in dances, then come ye out of the vineyards, and catch you every man his wife of the daughters of Shiloh, and go to the land of Benjamin.

22 And it shall be, when their fathers or their brethren come unto us to complain, that we will say unto them, Be favourable unto them for our sakes: because we reserved not to each man his wife in the war: for ye did not give unto them at this time, *that* ye should be guilty.

23 And the children of Benjamin did so, and took *them* wives. according to their number, of them that danced, whom they caught: and they went and returned unto their inheritance, and repaired the cities, and dwelt in them.

24 And the children of Israel departed thence at that time every man to his tribe and to his family, and they went out from thence every man to his inheritance.

25 In those days *there was* no king in Israel: every man did *that which was* right in his own eyes.



Introduction to the Book of Ruth

The book of Ruth is placed by the modern Jewish canon among the Hagiographa, the unrelated body of holy writings which form the third section of the Bible. But the earliest Christian Bibles placed the book in its present position among the historical records; and the learned Josephus, who lived in the same century as Christ, tells us that this was customary among the Jews in his day. The book has sometimes been regarded as a mere appendix to Judges or even as an actual part of that book, a detached story similar to that of the migration of Dan or the war against Benjamin.

The story of Ruth is represented as happening during the period of the judges, and has a direct historical bearing in that it tells of the ancestors of King David. The authorship is wholly unknown. Probably the work was composed in the days after the Exile as a protest against the exclusiveness of the anti-foreign party.

From a literary standpoint the book is highly valued. It is a pastoral idyl, almost a poem, depicting the life of the Israelites in their days of peace.



THE BOOK OF

Ruth

Chapter 1

1 Elimelech driven by famine into Moab, dieth there. 4 Mahlon and Chilion, having married wives of Moab, die also. 6 Naomi returning homeward, 8 dissuadeth her two daughters-in-law from going with her. 14 Orpah leaveth her, but Ruth with great constancy accompanieth her. 19 They two come to Beth-lehem, where they are gladly received.



OW it came to pass in the days when the judges ruled, that there was a famine in the land. And a certain man of Beth-lehem-judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he, and his wife, and his two sons.

2 And the name of the man *was* Elimelech, and the name of his wife Naomi, and the name of his two sons Mahlon and Chilion, Ephrathites of Beth-lehem-judah. And they came into the country of Moab, and continued there.

3 And Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died; and she was left, and her two sons.

4 And they took them wives of the women of Moab; the name of the one *was* Orpah, and the name of the other Ruth: and they dwelled there about ten years.

5 And Mahlon and Chilion died also both of them; and the woman *was* left of her two sons and her husband.

6 ¶ Then she arose with her daughters-in-law, that she might return from the country of Moab; for she had heard in the country of Moab how that the LORD had visited his people in giving them bread.

7 Wherefore she went forth out of the place where she was, and her two daughters-in-law with her; and they went on the way to return unto the land of Judah.

8 And Naomi said unto her two daughters-in-law, Go, return each to her mother's house: the LORD deal kindly with you, as ye have dealt with the dead, and with me.

9 The LORD grant you that ye may find rest, each of you in the house

of her husband. Then she kissed them; and they lifted up their voice, and wept.

10 And they said unto her, Surely we will return with thee unto thy people.

11 And Naomi said, Turn again, my daughters: why will ye go with me? *are* there yet *any more* sons in my womb, that they may be your husbands?

12 Turn again, my daughters, go *your way*; for I am too old to have an husband. If I should say, I have hope, *if* I should have an husband also to-night, and should also bear sons;

13 Would ye tarry for them till they were grown? would ye stay for them from having husbands? nay, my daughters; for it grieveth me much for your sakes that the hand of the LORD is gone out against me.

14 And they lifted up their voice, and wept again: and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law; but Ruth clave unto her.

15 And she said, Behold, thy sister-in-law is gone back unto her people, and unto her gods: return thou after thy sister-in-law.

16 And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, *or* to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people *shall be* my people, and thy God my God.

17 Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: the LORD do so to me, and more also, *if aught* but death part thee and me.

18 When she saw that she was stedfastly minded to go with her, then she left speaking unto her.

19 ¶ So they two went until they came to Beth-lehem. And it came to pass, when they were come to Beth-lehem, that all the city was moved about them, and they said, *Is this Naomi?*

20 And she said unto them, Call me not Naomi, call me Mara:¹ for the Almighty hath dealt very bitterly with me.

21 I went out full, and the LORD hath brought me home again empty: why *then* call ye me Naomi, seeing the LORD hath testified against me, and the Almighty hath afflicted me?

22 So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabitess, her daughter-in-law, with her, which returned out of the country of Moab: and they came to Beth-lehem in the beginning of barley harvest.

Chapter 2

¹ Ruth gleaneth in the fields of Boaz. ⁴ Boaz taking knowledge of her, ⁸ sheweth her great favour. ¹⁸ That which she got she carrieth to Naomi.

AND Naomi had a kinsman of her husband's, a mighty man of wealth, of the family of Elimelech; and his name *was* Boaz.

2 And Ruth the Moabitess said unto Naomi, Let me now go to

¹Naomi means "pleasant." Mara means "bitter."

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